

February March 25

SPRITE ON

The newsletter of the Sprite Car Club of Qld Inc



The Sprite Car Club of Queensland Inc is open to and welcomes owners & drivers of all vehicles. Our marque is Austin Healey Sprites, MG Midgets and all of their derivatives.



David Chapman on Troy's Fish & Chip run hoping he will make it home before it rains

Club Information

Website

<https://www.spritecarclub.com/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1737942263157816>

Correspondence

All correspondence is to be address to The Secretary: By mail:
Sprite Car Club of Qld Inc,
PO Box 82
Morningside. Qld. 4170
By email: secretary@spritecarclub.com

Meetings

Meetings are held the second Friday of each month 7.30pm, normally at The Mustang Rooms, Jean Howie Drive, Morningside. and other locations as scheduled. Check the calendar for exact dates and locations.

<https://www.spritecarclub.com/about-us/>

Membership

Joining Fee:

New members pay a joining fee of \$100.00 paid pro rata depending on the date of joining. This fee includes the joining fee, annual membership fee for all family members residing at the same address up to May, and 2 name badges.

Types of membership -

Full membership is for current owners of Sprites &/or Midgets.

Associate membership is for all others.

Annual membership:

Continuing members pay an annual membership fee which is currently \$72.00 and is payable in May of each year. This fee includes all family members who reside at the same address.

Club Banking

Details for direct deposits for membership fees, payments or events, purchase of regalia, etc: BSB: 034 002

Account Number: 613033

Account name: Sprite Car Club of Qld Inc

NOTE: Please use your surname, initial and reason for payment as the reference when making a payment.

Advertising

Members may place "For Sale" or "Wanted" ads in the Classifieds section at no charge. Classified ads will be removed automatically after a 3-month period, unless the editor is notified to either delete or extend the advertising period. Ads should be emailed to the newsletter editor. Contact the newsletter editor for further information. For paid commercial advertising please contact the Treasurer.

Newsletter contributions

The cut-off date for contributions for the next newsletter is the 6th of each second month, starting December 2023, but check with the Editor for late inclusion possibilities. **Please send articles in Word**

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PRESIDENT

Christine Thwaites
Club email: president@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0403 426 233



VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Derbyshire
Club email: vicepresident@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0418 737 929



TREASURER

Matt Creagh
Club email: treasurer@spritecarclub.com
Home phone: 3053 2350



SECRETARY

Miles Griffiths
Club email: secretary@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0488 218 848



Club Captain

Karen Gordon
Club email: captain@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0412 658 415



Membership Manager

Keith Gordon
Club email: membership@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0432 483 228 -



Newsletter Editor

Carole Cooke (cazcooke30@gmail.com)
Club email: editor@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0481 480 017



Regalia & Assets Manager

Karen Gordon (keithkaren1975@gmail.com)
Club email: regalia@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0412 658 415



Website Manager

Mike Dwyer (dwyermj@bigpond.com)
Club Email: webadmin@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0409 809 761



Media - Facebook and Email Manager

Scott Counsell
Club email: media@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0416 863 455



Gold Coast Chapter Representative

Mark Gillman
Club email: goldcoast@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0411 053 861



Sunshine Coast Chapter Representative

Gary Hawkins
Club email: sunshinecoast@spritecarclub.com
Mobile: 0435 767 365



Vice President's Report

For this edition of Sprite On a report from the Vice President rather than a report from the President ~ filling in while Christine our Club President enjoys a break.

The next club meeting is to be held on Friday 14th February 2025 at the Mustang Rooms, Jean Howie Drive, Morningside starting at 7.30 pm. A SCCQ committee meeting is to be held prior with the upstairs doors closed until no later than 7.20 pm.

At the 14th February meeting there will be a sausage sizzle with 'snags on bread' ready to go by 7.00 pm. It would be nice to kickstart pre-meeting's meet and greet sausage sizzles again. I have always enjoyed these so much in the past.

I look forward to an exciting year of club activities. I can see from the committee email that there are loads of options for club runs, social outings, racing and social dinners on offer. Our SCCQ club calendar is ever expanding. See elsewhere in this edition of Sprite On for what may pique your attention.

Our club website <https://www.spritecarclub.com/> continues to be developed to be our primary go to place for information as to our club activities. I would encourage all members to bookmark this website and visit at least once a month. Our club website also has a classified section which I would encourage any member looking to buy or sell to use alongside our Club Magazine and our Facebook group page. Our club website is our repository of past Sprite Car Club of Queensland Sprite On magazines. Perhaps your car or yourself can be spotted in a past edition?

See you round like a record

Mark Derbyshire - Vice President



Minutes of General Meeting Mustang Club Rooms

Date	13 December 2024	Commenced	7:30pm	Concluded	8:29pm
Committee	Chair: Christine Thwaites (CT) President Present: Matt Creagh (MC) Treasurer, Miles Griffiths (MG) Secretary, Mark Derbyshire (MD) Vice-President, Keith Gordon (KG) Membership, Karen Gordon (KKG) Club Captain Apologies: Mike Dwyer (MY) Website, Scott Counsel (SC) Social Media				
Members	Carole Cooke, Walter Williams, Rod Hibberd, Mark Gillman, John Godfrey Apologies: Oliver Benson, Nev Mansfield				

Item	Detail	Action
1.	The meeting was opened. Minutes of prior meeting. The minutes were tabled and adopted by KK, seconded Carol Cooke	
2.	President's Report. CT referred members to the report in the newsletter. The Christmas party was a great success. The venue and food were excellent. CT to send letter of thanks.	CT letter to Tingalpa Hotel
3.	Treasurer's report. MC tabled the report and explained transactions in the prior two months. The report was adopted by KKG, seconded KK.	
4.	Secretary's Report. MG logged incoming correspondence: Goblin Magazine Nov 2024, Esk Hotel invite for car club events, Westpac Bank statements The old mailbox rental and redirection has ended. Mail is coming to new PO Box and there is no need to extend diversion, MC has updated new address with various entities.	
5.	Membership Report. KG noted numbers are stable at 109 members, two prior members have rejoined.	
6.	Club Captain Report. KKG note that the calendar for 2025 is coming together. KKG will email members to suggest for calendar items: agreed by the Chair. Sprite Expo: KKG will book a date with Council and advise the Committee. Noted that the event venue needs to have toilet facilities close by. This has been agreed by council.	KKG to email members asking for calendar events. KKG to book date for Expo
7.	North Coast Report. Christmas dinner event was well attended by 14 members and very successful.	
8.	Gold Coast Report. The Christmas meeting was held earlier, before people go on holidays. 10 people attended Helensvale Tavern. GC chapter will arrange one run per quarter.	Mark Gillman to inform KKG of GC runs.

9.	<p>Facebook and Website reports. No Facebook or Website report: MY and SC are on holidays. The Committee has discussed, and the website is to be enhanced to allow users to see relevant Club docs (e.g. insurance), admin site (for Committee), pictures from events (which can also be posted on Facebook). The Committee want to make website more accessible to allow access by all members. The main website will be the primary source of information with Facebook to be a secondary site.</p>	<p>ACTION: MY. email list to be setup on website. Admin area to be setup on website. Documents section to be available for members to view relevant docs. E.g. insurance.</p>
10.	<p>Regalia Report. No significant news.</p>	
11	<p>Newsletter Report. The letter was finished on Tuesday, but when sent to SC for circulation it went into Spam. Carole Cooke requested to send directly to members, not via Scott: Chair agreed. Mark Derbyshire offered to proof-read for Carol.</p>	<p>Action: Carol Cooke to send newsletter directly to members</p>
12	<p>General Business: From Committee.</p>	
12.1	<p>Membership. Chair raised the matter of category of membership, and should we remove associate class, as it has been noted that some associate members feel that they don't have a say and would like to. Should couples have one fee and two votes? It was noted that much thought has gone into categories to keep Sprite owners as voting members, however there are members that due to physical disability cannot use a sprite but still want to be involved. Feedback will be sought from members. Discussion on membership ensued. KG noted that Temporary Member category is very rarely used and should be removed.</p>	<p>ACTION: those present to discuss with other members to obtain feedback. Please talk to a committee member if you want more details.</p>
12.2	<p>Member Survey Results. General Meeting content. Membership feedback indicates meetings would be more interesting with guest speakers, more informal social discussions and sausage sizzles. Survey results indicate several members are supportive of holding a GM while on a run. They also suggested more social nights and gymkhanas would interest members.</p>	<p>Action: MD will organise a sausage sizzle for next meeting and guest speakers to be organised for during the year.</p>
12.3	<p>General Meeting minutes. Minutes will be prepared by Secretary, reviewed by President and circulated to members by the President within a week of the meeting.</p>	
12.4	<p>Club Constitution. The Constitution needs review and update to make more modern and functional. Feedback will be sought as the Committee looks into changes with a measured and balanced approach to be taken.</p>	
12.5	<p>Zoom Meetings. Using Zoom at General Meetings was discussed generally. The Chair agreed to trial at some meetings.</p>	<p>CT to arrange Zoom for selected General Meetings</p>

13	13 General Business: From Floor.	
13.1	Club Meetings. The status of meetings was raised. The Chair informed the meeting we will continue with <i>General Meetings</i> every second month, and social gathering to occur every other month. The Dix's have arranged these in the past. A sausage sizzle has been arranged for the February 14 meeting, held by MD.	MG to ask to Dix's to arrange social meetings
13.2	Next General Meeting. 14 February 2025. Social meeting will be Troy's Fish and Chips run on a Sat evening (Mark Gillman to arrange)	
13.3	2025 Christmas Party. The date and venue of the 2025 Christmas Party was discussed. The Chair agreed that the date will be 7 December 2025 at the same venue, Tingalpa Hotel.	
14	Meeting Closed.	



Gold Coast Chapter

Hello Sprite Car Club Members,

Last month's Gold Coast Chapter monthly meeting was held at The Boathouse Tavern, being a January meeting it was a little quieter than normal but the members that did attend had a great night.

I would also like to thank all members that attended the club's first run/event for 2025 - being Troy's Fish & Chip Run. It was a very good turnout of approximately 28 members for the afternoon run and dinner. All members that attended said they had a great time. Deb Mitchell and myself are looking forward to doing another run in memory of past president and member Troy Mansfield.

Should any members have any questions or queries regarding the Gold Coast Chapter please contact me on 0411 053 861 or email me at markgillman@optusnet.com.au. I look forward to catching up with members at the next meeting or social run/event.

Mark Gillman.



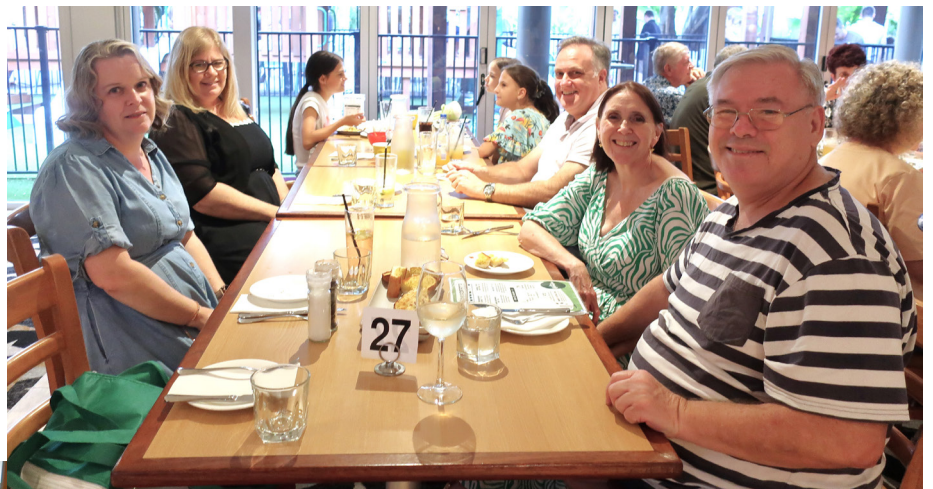
Meeting for Troy's fish & Chip Run at The Zone, Underwood

Troy's Fish & Chip Run - January 18

We met at The Zone, Underwood at 4.15 and Mark guided us to The Colmslie Hotel at Morningside. We watched carefully as the storm clouds gathered as we were concerned for David Chapman and John Godfrey in their Sprites. David went home and John also went home to change cars to come to the Hotel. Well done to both of you.

Many Club members met us at the Hotel at 5.30 to remember Troy. We also were able to celebrate Sephora's birthday with an amazing cake.

Carole



Club Captain's Report

You might be wondering why you need to sign the Attendance sheets when you attend one of our events, so here is the reason.

The accumulation of points as a member is as follows

- 1 point for attending an event
- 1 point for using your Sprite/Midget
- 1 point for wearing your badge
- 1 point for organising an event

I keep track of all Attendance forms and calculate the points for each run. At the end of the year, at our Christmas Party we award Trophies, with the Club Champion being for the Member with the most Accumulated points for the year.

So, come along to events, wear your badge, bring your Sprite/Midget, organise a run and you might get to be Club Champion at this years Christmas Party.

Also awarded at the Christmas Party is the Irene Mansfield/Spritely Spirit Award - going to the Member that helps out where ever needed during the year.

The Tony Bennetto Award is awarded to the Member that drives their Bugeye the most throughout the year. This award was donated to our Club by Tony Bennetto's wife after Tony passed away. Tony owned The Buygeye Barn in Victoria and supplied many of our spare parts and was a wizz at repairing our Gearboxes.

If you are looking for the calendar on the Facebook page, please look at 'Featured'

We still need you to volunteer to organise an Event, as you can see, there are quite a few months without a run. Please call or email me, or a committee member if you would like to organise a run.

Below is the Calendar for February to May.

FEBRUARY

14TH Club Meeting, Mustang Rooms, Jean Howie Drive Morningside 7.15pm Sausage Sizzle.
Contact Miles Griffiths for more details ph 0488 218 848

18th Sunshine Coast Dinner - Morayfield Tavern - 146/150 Morayfield Rd, Caboolture South. 6pm
Contact Gary Hawkins for more information ph 0435 767 365

19th Gold Coast Dinner - Boathouse Tavern, 101 Dreamworld Pkwy, Coomera, 6.15pm Contact
Mark Gillman for more details ph 0411 053 861

21-23th Morgan Park Racing

MARCH

18th Sunshine Coast Dinner - Bribie Island Surf Club, Bribie Island Surf Life Saving Club, 2 First
Ave, Woorim, 6pm Contact Gary Hawkins for more information ph 0435 767 365

19th Gold Coast Dinner - Boathouse Tavern, 101 Dreamworld Pkwy, Coomera, 6.15pm, Contact
Mark Gillman for more details ph 0411 053 861

30th Chris & Stuart Run to Bribie Island details to follow.

APRIL

4-6 Morgan Park Racing

11th Club Meeting Mustang Rooms Jean Howie Drive Morningside 7.30pm, Contact Miles Griffiths for more details ph 0488 218 848

15th Sunshine Coast Dinner - Glasshouse Tavern, 10 Reed St, Glass House Mountains 6pm
Contact Gary Hawkins for more information ph 0435 767 365

16th Gold Coast Dinner - Shearers Arms Tavern - 23 Peachey Rd, Ormeau, 6.15pm Contact Mark Gillman for more details ph 0411 053 861

MAY

GOLD COAST RUN TBA

14th Gold Coast Dinner - Shearers Arms Tavern Ormeau - 23 Peachey Rd, Ormeau, 6.15pm
Contact Mark Gillman for more details ph 0411 053 861

18th SPRITE EXPO, Pelican Park Clontarf. (near Information Center, close to toilets)

20th Sunshine Coast Dinner - Burpengary Tavern 262 Bruce Hwy Eastern Service Rd, Burpengary East 6pm Contact Gary Hawkins for more information ph 0435 767 365

25th Rain back up date for Sprite Expo

Have a great month

Karen Gordon

Sunshine Coast Chapter

We kicked off 2025 with our Monthly dinner at the Beerwah Hotel. Numbers were a bit low as some were still away on holiday, but we still managed a gathering of eight members and of course we had a few laughs, a couple of drinks, and an enjoyable meal.

The Trivia quiz for the night was themed "Australian Music and Film" (to celebrate Australia Day. Geoff Milner took the chocolates with an impressive 8 out of 10, nice work Geoff.

Our February meeting is at the Morayfield Tavern on Tuesday the 18th. Look forward to seeing all of the Sunny Coast members there.

Gary Hawkins

Wide Bay Chapter

Tuesday February 4 was the Wide Bay brunch event attended by Leigh & Bobbie, Richard and Vicki and Alex and Anne.

Richard gave us details for the March meeting. It will be at the Salt Café, 569 Esplanade, Urungan, for morning tea on March 4.

Alex Robertson

Matt Creagh sent an article by James Gerrard - principal and director of planning firm www.financialadvisorcom.au

As the cost of living soars, you would assume the market for collectable cars would be in free fall. After all, economic growth is slowing and some experts predict a recession in 2025.

Certainly, the impact of rising interest rates is starting to affect mortgage holders, who have been cutting back on spending.

But something interesting is happening. A segment of the collectable car market is going through a purple patch and classic car dealers cannot find vehicles quick enough to feed the market of cashed-up buyers.

Ben Finnis, managing director of South Australia-based Collectable Classic Cars, one of the largest classic car dealers in the nation says: "Although the mood on the street is doom and gloom with the talk of recession, rising interest rates have been great for retirees who generate part of their retirement income from term deposits.

"Some of these people have never been better off."

Finnis is selling at least a car a day and says business is even better now compared with Covid-19 times, when people bought cars to travel domestically as travel bans were in place.

In addition to rising term deposit income, retirees have seen the value of their superannuation fund grow, with share markets producing strong returns for the past 12 months.

In terms of what cars retirees are buying, just like most collectable car owners there tends to be an emotional connection to the formative years. Maybe the car was a poster on the wall as a teenager, maybe the cool uncle owned the car or maybe it was a car that was always beyond their means but now they are in a position to buy it. "Cars built in the 1960s and 1970s are what retirees are snapping up," Finnis says. "Australian classics such as Holden are doing very well, but also English cars such MG and Austin-Healey are in demand and the typical budget tends to be up to \$50,000."

For \$30,000 you can get a mint condition 1963 Holden EJ Special and for less, an early '60s convertible Triumph Spitfire.

However, it is not all good news for collectable car owners. While the cars retirees are buying are rising in value, late model collectable cars are in decline.

"During Covid people aged between 40 and 60 bought collectable cars built from the 1980s onwards as investments," Finnis says. "But now, with the cost of living pressure, some of these people are in a financial mess and are trying to get rid of these cars, which is impacting resale values in this segment"

Whether cars are good investments or not, Finnis is not a fan of owning cars in super funds.

"Super funds are governed by strict rules around the usage of collectable cars and as such, cars owned in super funds tend to spend most of their lives locked up in dark garages," he says. "But cars need to be driven and used to retain their good working condition."

If you are thinking about purchasing a car as an investment, it can be a tough market to make the appropriate purchase. Although cars from the 1960s and 1970s are currently selling like hot cakes, in 10 years' time prices may come down as the people who bought them today start to get to the age where they no longer drive cars and begin to sell.

At the same time, the next generation of collectors will prefer cars from their childhood and that means cars from 1990 onwards may boom.

Although EV sales are trending down at present, Finnis sees both EVs and hydrogen vehicles as a threat to the collectable car industry.

When questioned on why this might be the case given that less supply of combustion engine vehicles logically equates to more demand and higher prices, he says: "There are a lot of question marks in the future as battery and hydrogen-powered vehicles become the norm.

"The government may introduce an annual tax per engine cylinder or they may increase the excise on fuel. And fuel generally may be harder to source."

Overall, buying a collectable car makes sense if you have a passion for it. But if your sole motivation is profit, steer clear.

Demand is fickle and can change with the preferences of buyers and changes to economic conditions - both of which can occur rapidly and result in large swings in collectable car values.



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Location : Hervey Bay.

Contact: **Kevin Sly 0410 124579.**

For Sale: AH Sprite sized enclosed car trailer

PRICE REDUCTION: NOW JUST \$2K

Features:

- tandem axle
- electric brakes
- seven pin round connector with seven pin flat adaptor
- 200AH AGM battery dated 10/6/21
- tyres dated 16th week, 2022
- 4000kg electric winch
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- registered

Specs:

- Tare: 800kg
- GVM: 1990kg
- car space dimensions:
3360mm long x 1555mm wide x 1335mm high

Condition is suitable for immediate use. Last service including new bearings in 2022, less than 1,000km covered since then.

Contact: Nick on 0411077155



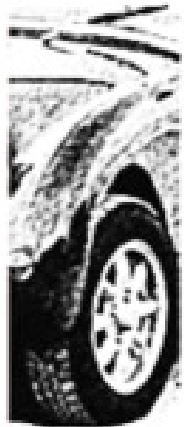


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CLASSIC CAR CLINIC IS NOW OPEN

Classic Car Clinic is now open with all new facilities more space and of course our continued affection for all things classic Sprite. You'll be welcomed by some new faces and familiar ones too.

Should it help in getting back from the new location, courtesy transport can be provided and we can also offer a pick-up service

for your car too. We continue to operate during these times and we welcome your business and support. Please like us on Facebook and keep an eye on our feed for updates and invites to future events. Call us or email to make a booking and we look forward to seeing you and your car here soon.



37 Lemana Lane, Burleigh Heads, 4220

Our new phone number is 5659 1455

info@classiccarclinic.com.au

Regalia



MENS POLO SHIRTS \$45 Sizes S – 5XL
LADIES POLO SHIRTS \$45
Sizes 8 - 18



UNISEX LONG SLEEVE POLO SHIRTS \$45
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SUN PROTECTION SHIRT – UPF 50

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LADIES OUTDOOR LONG SLEEVE SHIRT \$85 SIZE 8-24
AVAILABLE IN GREEN, BLUE, SAND, NAVY AND BLACK
UPF 50



BUCKET HATS \$25
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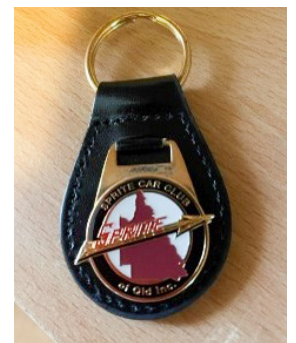


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GRILL
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CLOTH SEW ON BADGE \$10 AVAILABLE BLACK OR WHITE



50 YEAR GRILLE BADGE
\$20



50 YEAR
CLOTH GRILLE BADGE \$15

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE ANY REGALIA,
PLEASE EMAIL ME AT regalia@spritecarclub.com**

Cars & Coffee Events - held monthly

View or bring your own muscle, classic, vintage, exotic, historic, rare and/or race cars and bikes. It is a great opportunity for like-minded enthusiasts to meet and enjoy a delicious cup of coffee and talk about all things motoring related. All types of cars and bikes are encouraged and welcome to join these family orientated events.

BRISBANE

Coorparoo: 1st Saturday of each month, from 7:30am, Samios Foods, 37 Turbo Drive Coorparoo
Taigum: 3rd Saturday of each month, from 6:30am, Taigum Square, 217 Beams Rd, Taigum.
<https://www.carsandcoffeebrisbane.com/>

BRISBANE NORTH & NORTH WEST

North Lakes: 3rd Saturday of each month, 7-9am 21 Torres Cres North Lakes <https://motoringdiary.com.au/event/cars-and-coffee-north-lakes/>
Samford: 2nd Sunday of each month, from 7:30am, Shop 14, 19 Main Street, Samford Village
<https://www.bgsclassiccars.com.au/carsandcoffee>

SUNSHINE COAST

Coolum: 1st Saturday of each month, 7-10am at the German Bakehouse, 54 Junction Rd, Coolum Beach. (Also open next door for a \$5 entry fee is the private car collection of Frank Carroll and the Sir Henry Royce Foundation.) <https://www.facebook.com/carsandcoffeesunshinecoast/> <https://www.facebook.com/german-bakehousecoolumcafe/>

GOLD COAST

Monthly coffee catch is back at Ormeau on the LAST SUNDAY of the month. Plenty of carparking and a great coffee kiosk right there in the carpark in the middle of it all. The cafe has gone through a complete renovation with plenty of seating and shaded areas.

Currumbin: 1st Sunday of each month, 8-11am, 639 Currumbin Creek Rd, Currumbin <https://cartorque.co/car-shows/cars-and-coffee-currumbin-valley-qld-3535>

NORTHERN NSW

Byron Bay: 2nd Sunday of each month, 8:30-11:30, The Farm at Byron Bay, 11 Ewingsdale Rd, Ewingsdale (approx. 5 minutes drive from Byron Bay). There is a \$2 donation per car to cover costs. <http://byronbayspeedshop.com/cars-and-coffee-byron-bay/>

NOTE: Always check with the Club Website and/or Facebook page for any last-minute changes to the events or any new events which may not be included here. COVID 19 may have affected these events