

## Mid North Coast

Hopefully the Mid North Coast is opening up again, or to put it another way, I am getting off my bum, long time overdue.

Mid-week luncheons will recommence in the Mid North Coast region on Wednesday February 22nd, at 12.00 noon at the Kendall Services & Citizens Club.

It is planned that these will continue throughout the year, The March one being on 15th, the April one on the 19th.

Please advise Colin if you plan to attend any of these lunch time gatherings on 0408 240 078.

Colin Trusler

And more...

### MOR !

This is a tale of Janet & Colin and how they evolved. Please do not think that 'more' is misspelt, it is simply the first three letters that tie this story together.

Colin has been an active member of the Morris Minor car club for some 30 odd years. In 2004 he purchased this block of land at Kempsey. The shed on the block was finished in time for a Morris Minor gathering to be held at the property on the June long weekend 2005. Whilst this was going on, Colin got permission from the NMMCCNSW to form a chapter, headed as the Mid North Coast MMCC. Delving through the club membership records, Colin contacted all current members in the area.

Bob & Janet Brannon were listed at Port Macquarie, contact was duly made and Colin visited them. He was pleasantly surprised to discover Janet had a series II Morris Convertible as her daily driver and Bob had a Morris 1000 ute.

Early retirement allowed Colin to relocate from Sydney in 2006; Janet recalls them visiting Colin in 2007 while he was building his house. Over the years through Morris Minor activities, a friendship was formed, Bob even got Colin to help him with his Morgan, which had been hidden from

view for years. These activities culminated in Colin assisting Bob & Janet clean up and pack up their home at Settlement Point in 2013, prior to their relocation to the Isle of Wight. Colin was left with the 2 Morris's to sell on their behalf.

Emails were exchanged between the UK to Aus and in 2014 Colin visited Bob & Janet on the Isle of Wight, where he was offered a drive of the Morgan. Time moves on and emails exchanged, all of the sudden another move is afoot, this time Bob & Janet are moving to South Africa in late 2015.

More emails exchanged and Colin is off to the UK in 2017 for 3 months to celebrate his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Somehow Colin had gathered that not all was well with a couple of deals Bob had set up when he left England, namely the Morgan and another vehicle left with a wheeler dealer; the money had not been forthcoming nor would he communicate with them.

Colin decided he would endeavour to rectify this while he was in the UK, and as luck would have it Tony Harvey, an ex NSW Police Sgt, (Colin's best man), would also be in the UK at the same time. Ground work was done, precautions taken and Colin



The Morgan, almost the star of the show

took possession of the Morgan on Monday 21st July 2017, with Tony's assistance. The car was in pieces, so Colin rented an area in a workshop, where he put it back together. Communicating with Bob & Janet, it was decided to bring the car back to Australia.

Bob's health was deteriorating and on the day of Bob's passing the Morgan cleared the wharf in Sydney. More emails, and soon after Janet's subsequent return to Australia in February 2018, Colin caught up with Janet at Richmond for coffee. An invitation was extended for Janet to visit Kempsey, whenever she wanted.

Time marches on, Colin reviews the usage of the Morgan and a decision is made to sell it in August 2019. A select buyer, namely Mike & Margaret Morgan are the purchasers! That is the car that brought Janet to the wedding with Colin and both Mike & Margaret joined in the celebrations.

Janet advises Colin she will be coming to Kempsey in late October 2019. Yes it was great to see her, whilst here Colin presented Janet with her share of the Morgan sale. Janet also outlined her Christmas trip, camping around Victoria, so Colin offered some words of advise.

Janet returned to Shoalhaven Heads, regularly exchanging emails and the progression of getting all her bits for the camping trip. She departed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 heading south, the time of

the very bad bush fires. The journey was fraught with detours, road closures etc, Colin maintained daily contact with Janet throughout, for which Janet was very grateful. She finished the trip and arrived back home in early January 2020.

From then onwards regular emails were exchanged as lives progressed, with Janet making a decision to once again visit Kempsey in June 2021, this time the tenure was a lot longer, as COVID intervened, restricting movements out of Kempsey, then restricting movements into Shoalhaven Heads. 3 months in total passed, which allowed the friendship to evolve into a relationship. In September 2021 we made the decision to live together, and in mid October 2021, Janet moved into Colin's home.

In June 2022 we decided to get married, Janet felt she would like to have our wedding at home in Kempsey on her birthday.

'MOR' was the first three letters of the reason a friendship was commenced: it was also the first three letters of Morris and Morgan. The recovery of the car in 2017 created an additional layer of deeper trust and understanding. The wedding car Janet arrived in is that very Morgan!

Colin Trusler

