

THE SNAKESKIN Cobra Club of WA Inc.

Volume 1, Issue 1

19 March 1998

In the beginning....

Well, our club has been up and running for over eight months now and what has changed. The good news is that we are more popular than before as our membership continues to increase, both in people and cars, registered and under construction, to a total of forty one members and sixteen road going Cobras. Other happenings is that after doing the usual paperwork and form filling in, we are now a fully Incorporated Club. So what you say? This means we are now eligible to affiliate with the Combined Car Clubs of WA, [our application is in the pipeline now,] and participate in their events throughout the year. The other possibly more important aspect is the limit to members personal liability from any legal litigation arising from club organised events.

Activities to date include displays at the ALL FORD DAY, organised by the Mustang Owners and GT Falcon Clubs, in November, with seven entries, and a good turnout at the CLASSIC CAR SHOW held recently. It was good to see members still building their cars call by our stand.

Club runs to various destinations have been held on weekends with mixed participation, but we always have a good time. Nice to see most cars two-up these days which is great.

Some of our members have attended Big Al's Poker Run, also the Ace Ford Club's Nite Cruise, both events good fun with around 400 entries each.

For a day with a difference the club organised a "shed day", comprising visits to three sheds around the Metro area to see Cobras at various stages of construction. A good turnout at all the venues and thanks to Michael, Dave and Graham for getting it together for our benefit.

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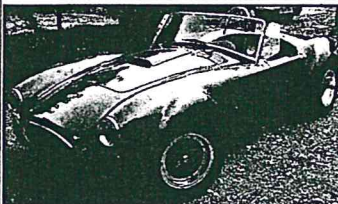
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MOBRA STORY

Here is the never released story about the MOBRA.

In 1966, Carroll Shelby stashed a few Cobra bodies away for future use of two of his employees, then contacted Chrysler drag-race engine builder Buddy Martin to build them a 426 Street Hemi for a special project.

The Hemi was fitted with aluminium Offenhauser heads, a Moon intake with 4 Weber IDA 58 mm cross-rams, and a New Process A-833 4 speed manual transmission. These two employees contacted Carroll and wanted the go-ahead and he said "OK", as he didn't really like Ford and was there for his own purposes. The Mobra, as it was dubbed, was fitted with the aforementioned 426 Hemi and 4speed, along with a Chrysler Dana 60 posi-traction rear end with 4.11 gears, and the complete interior from the standard Cobra, and a '65 Barracuda shifter was fitted to the car. This is where it gets muddled. There were supposedly 7 made, 4 with Webers, and 3 with Hilborn fuel injection, all with 4 speeds. They were driven and tested around Buckinghamshire and near Newcastle-on-Avon, and from what I could tell all 7 still exist in the US, UK, and Switzerland. Then in '67 when Ford introduced the GT40, a prototype was acquired, and Carroll, Dan Gurney, and Bruce McClaren met secretly to build a Hemi-powered GT40. This engine was also built by Buddy Martin and had Hillborn 1500 cfm injection, ZF 5speed transaxle. This car was never seen after '68, when loaded on a US bound ship. Its whereabouts remain unknown.....

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Some of our social outings have been a tad low on numbers so in an endeavour to please more of the members more of the time we compiled a survey as a guide to what you want. Results will be available later.....providing we can get the completed forms returned. Stay tuned.

Twilight Rally. The idea of a drive along the Darling Range at sundown-ish with something to occupy both driver and navigator, led to the Prez. and Sec. putting a package together for Saturday March 21. The cool conditions [max. temp. 22C.] not conducive to open air cars but still we had eight starters, including three Cobras. The plan was for an interesting drive with things to note, the duration being around 60km and 1.5hrs, ending at Somewhere Else Cafe, Kalamunda, for Dinner, at 8pm. Great to see all the Ladies out and about, and other club members, unavailable for the drive, join us at the Cafe. Due to time available Rally winners could not be ascertained on the night and will be presented at our Club meeting on March 30.

WINNER COBRAS

Terry & Wendy Lovell.....-5 Minutes.

WINNER OVERALL

Barry & Julie Arnold.....+ 4 Minutes.

Thanks to all who participated.

Around the time of the AGM there was considerable discussion regarding Club Merchandise, i.e. Caps, T-Shirts, and Jackets etc. Not much was happening so the Secretary decided to get some shirts made with the Club Logo and see what goes. We are now on the second batch and there are only two left. At \$20 each for a designer shirt they have to be a gift!

At last the revised Club Members Register is complete. All that needs to be done now is printing and distribution. Would everyone check that particulars are correct, especially phone numbers as these sometimes change without us knowing.

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