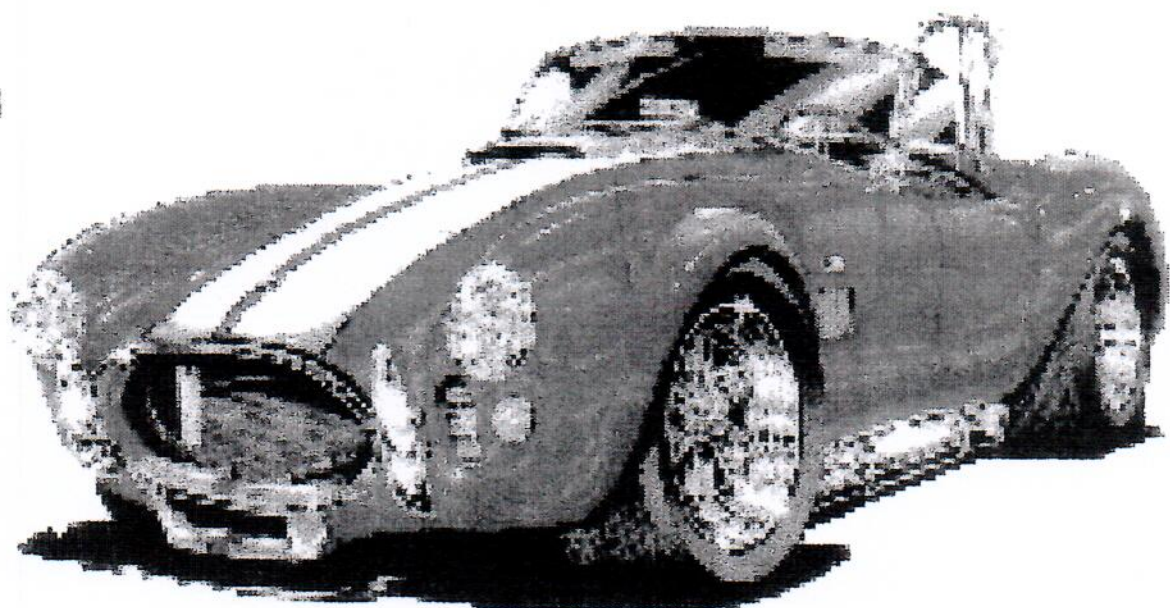


**COBRA CAR CLUB OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

THE SNAKE SKIN

Fangs and all.....

VOLUME 3, EDITION 7: APRIL 2002



www.cobracarclubwa.com

Rumour has it.....

Well, Terry Lovell its strongly rumoured that you are building again! The new G-Force body and chassis, more leg room. This *Cobra* is the Cobra of all Cobras etc, etc. Hummm wondered how long it would take for Terry to get back into things.

The "king of spin" is at it again. Tony Roskell in his now beefy blue beauty is taking to the track at every opportunity. This king of spin (not content with 1 full 360 spin, but he pulls 2 full 360's in succession). Now that takes daring and style. And leaves a huge smile on the face. (See it on video, have a laugh). Oh yer, Tony tells me he would have got second fastest time on the day. Yer right Tony.

Out of the G-Force stable comes a new chassis to take a 427 big block. So another innovation comes to fruition from this manufacturer. What's next Rob? Perhaps a *Daytona Coupe*?

Well the "King of Spin" has done it yet again. Gets around this bloke. I here tell took his beast to somewhere around "Brookton" way? Missed out on the "Best car in show" but took out the speed event that was held. Hmmmmm Tony, Flannigan has got something to chase, hey mate.

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Southern Snakes

Well, I had a great weekend and the highlight was definitely the twilight/cruise poker run with you other enthusiasts. What a great sight (and sound) with all those cobras making their way along the coastal strip. No one seemed to know exactly where we were going but it didn't really matter. The u-turns throughout the Kwinana industrial areas were another thing all together.

Let me tell you about the lady in the red wagon that paced us up Thomas Rd and onto the Kwinana Freeway on the way home. When we hit Leach Hwy I turned right and headed for the hills and the others, including Keith Ennis, took a left turn. Anyway she continued to pace alongside me until *SCREECH!* She forgot that red means stop, skids past me and spins around in the middle of the intersection almost collecting a whole pile of cars. I guess she just couldn't take her eyes off my car. You get that. I decide that it would be safer to get as far ahead of her as possible. All up I put another 1500km on the clock and averaged around 23mpg. Not that I really worry about fuel economy even if it does sell for 96-98 cents/litre here (premium).

Sunday 17/2 saw two Cobras, a Ferrari, a Jag XJS cabriolet and a Mercedes coupe go for a leisurely drive to Mt Barker. We stopped to sample the wares at Goundrey Wines then we were off to Denmark for some afternoon tea before heading back to Albany. We had our respective spouses accompanying us and it was quite a pleasant outing. Sitting on 100km/hr, Ron Hiam was bringing up the rear in his red/white 351 powered reptile when he got passed by a Pajero towing a caravan! Boy, did I gave him heaps about this. The rig didn't get to pass me as we had turned off the highway before he caught up. There's something to be said about sitting on the limit. Apparently the leader, Joe Baker in his red Ferrari (his missus wasn't in the mood to go topless in the Cobra), had some concerns that the Merc couldn't keep up. Heading home after the stop in Denmark was every man for himself. I got past the V12 Jag and the Merc no worries. Ron Hiam wouldn't push his Cobra as he has this fear of dumping it upside down (why own one then?). I was enjoying the clear road ahead when I spotted this red missile rapidly approaching in the rear view mirror.

The Ferrari screams past and I drop my toy into third and plant it. Suddenly the Ferrari gets this blue snake right in behind him. I pull fourth and Joe's wife starts screaming. He backs off a touch and I pass him, putting him back

(Continued page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

where he belongs. Then my wife starts screaming, something about how fast are we going. I pull fifth and ease back. "110 k's" I yell back at her. "Yeah, right" she yells back.

Back at home I tell Joe what a sensation to have that Ferrari scream past me in full flight. He reckons the noise from the Cobra passing him was something else. The wives discuss various methods of depriving us of certain parts of our anatomies. Oh well, boys and their toys!

Planning to get up for the Whiteman Park event and look forward to catching up with some of you then. Cheers for now and "stay alive to drive".

Dave Tadic (Albany)

Car Suspension Information Night

With a turn-out of Members number around 25, plus a fare few cars this "Club-run" proved very popular. Well done to Graham Sach for his organising this night. And thanks to WA Suspensions of Osborne Park for their hospitality and very generous information.

The night began with a very informative chat on how to set up vehicles and get the optimum use from your vehicles suspension. A bit of geometry on the "why" and "how" of suspensions

A couple of our members got to get their cars up on the hoist and some work done to the suspension set-up by the highly qualified Staff.

This proved an interesting exercise and resulted in some very different results between the two cars and, as I have heard myself, some healthv

debate between various Club Members at a recent Monthly meeting. Whatever the outcomes of the various ideas that individuals may have about suspensions and handling characteristics of the various cars in the Club, one thing is always certain are YOU happy with what you have got and did it pass the vehicle inspection to be road registered.

Can the suspension be improved? Cause it can. How much money do you want to spend?

At the nights end drinks and nibbles were welcomed. Courtesy Rod Ryan, Management and Staff, WA Suspensions.

Great night.

FOR SALE

NEW....VDO gauge and shunt with white pointer
Contact Terry Lovell (Club member)

Dunsborough Travel Adventure

With 7 Cobras and 4 passengers the group met at BP Booragoon 4pm Saturday 9th March. This was to be a serious Clubrun to the southwest destination of Dunsborough. There were showers forecast, but we headed off anyway with crossed fingers. Rob (President) kept figures for kilometres travelled and fuel consumed, to work out who ran the most economical Cobra over the weekend.

After calling into Shell, Bunbury for a top-up, the group made their way down to Dunsborough, via the new by-pass at Busselton. On arrival in Dunsborough the clouds looked ominous, so there was a scurry to get car unloaded and cover on. A local Cobra owner managed to track the us down, after a mate of his had seen the convoy come through town and rang him.

We then headed for the Tavern for a well earned feed and a few drinks, then back to the beach-house for a few more, (drinks?) then sort out who got to sleep where.

Sunday morning bright and early, refresh from a good nights sleep we made our way to the nearest café for breakfast. Then loaded up and do some sight seeing at Meelup and Eagle Bay, before trekking towards suburbia again. The weather was kind to us again, with no rain on the way home. Last refuel at Bunbury, then onto Mandurah where some of the group stopped in at the

Jolly Frog Café for a late lunch. An excellent Clubrun, put together by our President and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, with tanks to the tree wives who accompanied their husbands on the trip.

We look forward to the next weekender "Down South".

By the way, Ron and Noia McNally won the economy prize, with there gas powered Cobra.....\$10.27 per 100k's

Brian Plan, Secretary

LIGHTER MOMENTS.....

Tina had just got back from a business trip and was asking her little son what he'd been doing while she was away.

"There was a terrible storm one night," he began, "and I was so frightened that me and Daddy snuggled up together in your bed."

"You mean 'Daddy and I,'" corrected the boy's pretty young nanny.

"That was Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday," said the boy.

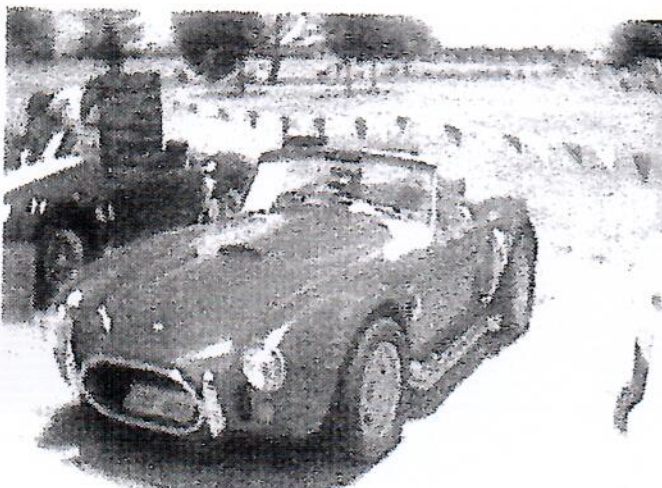
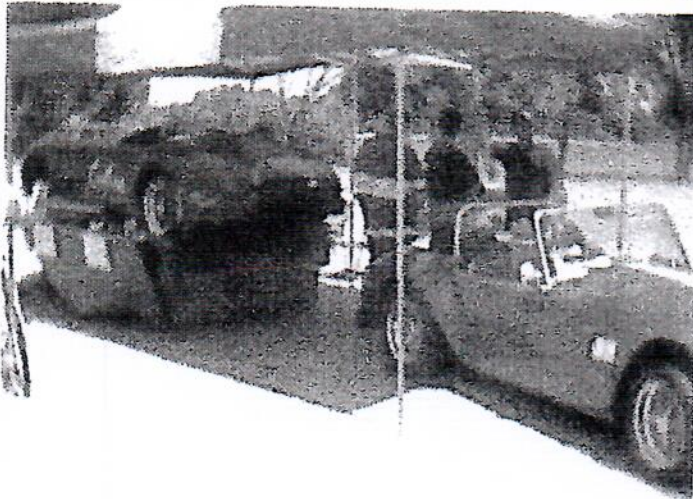
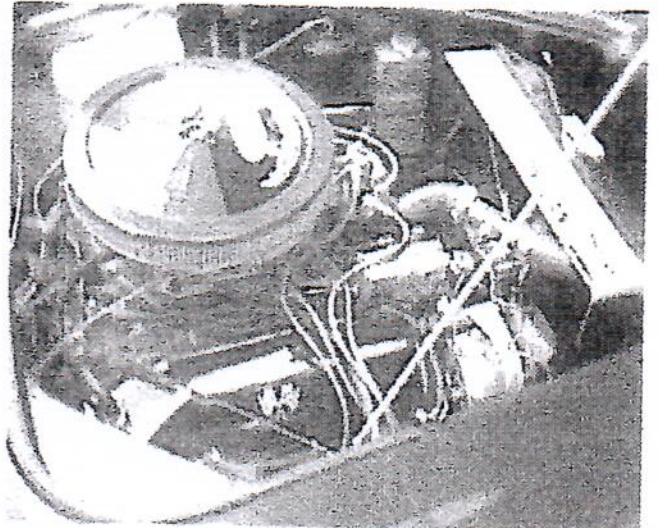
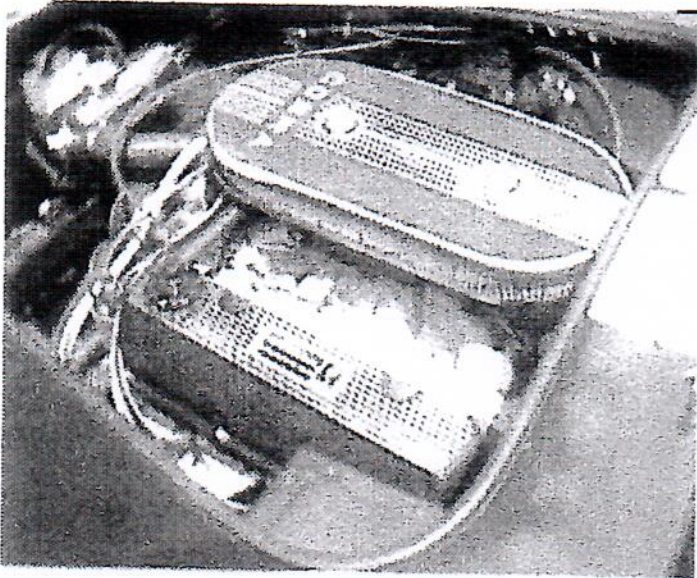
Rushing into a doctor's surgery a man screamed, "I've just swallowed a billiard ball!"

"I'm sorry," said the doctor, "but you'll have to sit on the end of the queue."

Did you here about the chicken that had its mouth washed out with soap? It was using fowl language.

MORE FROM THE 'SHOWN 'N SHINE'

Engine bays and Club members *Cobras* on display at Burswood 2001

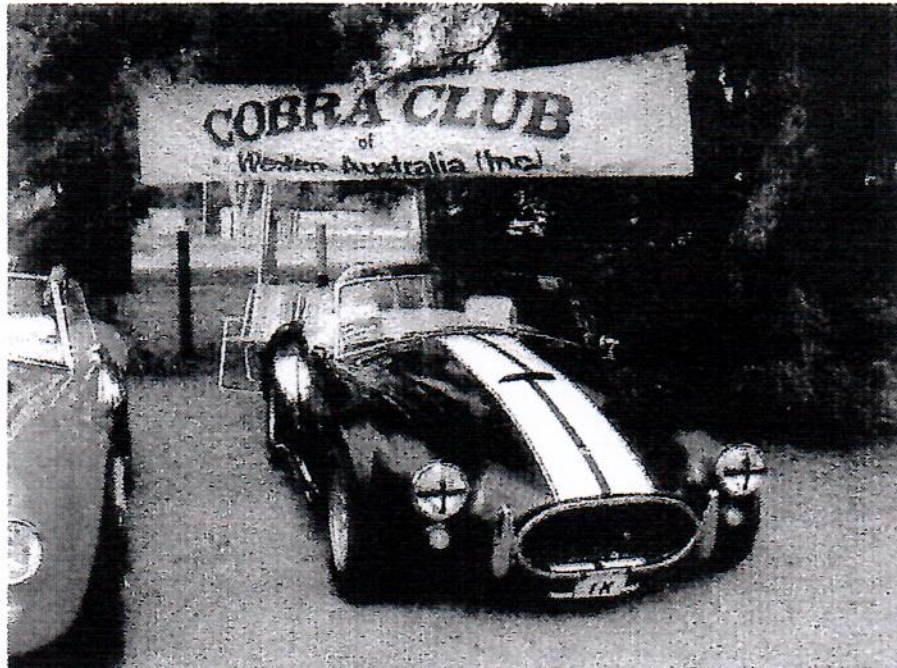


Whiteman Park Classic Car Show 2002

Again another great car show. Around 1300 cars of various makes, models and ages made it to the Park. 14 Cobras turned out for our Club and again they drew the crowds. I did the camp over bit with me mate, Graham Sach and sleaped under the stars, comforted with a couple of JD's and coke. (Want a couple more starters for the "camp-out/sleep-over" next year)

Good to see Dave Tadic travel up from Albany for the day with his blue beast. A few of the wives were there to brave the day and wipe away the rain drops that fell in the afternoon.

Here are a few pics of the cars at the show, courtesy of Dave Tadic.



Above: Karl Balling's Cobra



A bit of the days line-up





Dave Tadic's young bloke taking in all the days offerings. (wot! Dad.....no drinks)



Rob Keene's little silver beauty



Above: Joe Craig's Cobra



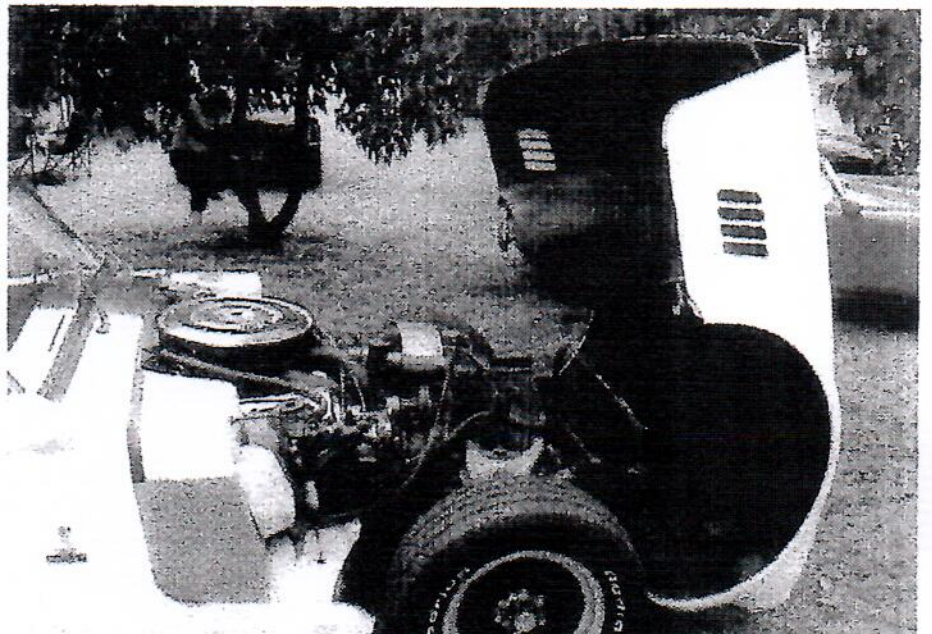
John Harper's (Harps) Cobra



Rob Kirk's immaculate little red Cobra.
Yes it is red!



A few of us hadn't seen this particular Cobra around for some years.....on of the very early ones.
What about the flip nose?



EDITORIAL.....

Well at the January meeting it was decided by majority that the Clubman award should go.....it's a sad move I feel. I believe with a little effort the Committee could have come up with a more evenly balanced system that would give those in the Club an achievement award that would be justly deserved. Maybe we will resurrect this award in a couple of years time?

Again we do not seem to be supporting Club members who put the effort in in attending meetings, runs or other motoring/club events etc. Maybe we as a Club should "expand" our annual "show 'n shine" and other car show we attend. I believe that we are letting the hard efforts of the majority go unrewarded? The "wannabe racers" of the Club supposedly are not representing the Club when they do their thing because they have to join another Club to get a CAMS licence. They are still members of the Cobra Car Club and as a group represent the Club I say.

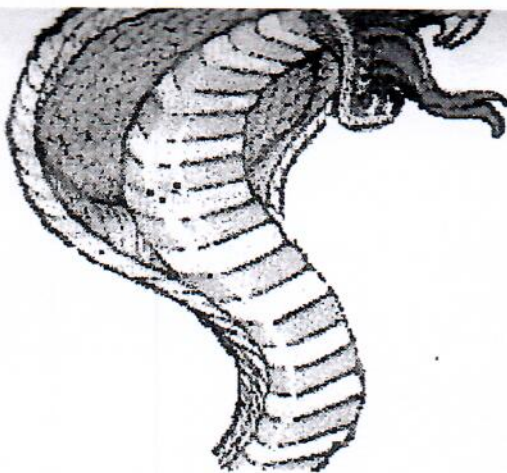
On another matter, have you checked your insurance renewal lately. Got mine in January from Shannon's, it had risen \$120 to \$584 for cover of \$25,000 with restrictions. When I approached the insurer and after discussions on this matter, I was later informed by the insurer that the amount shown on this invoice was what was expected in payment. In other words "matter closed pay up or go elsewhere". Elsewhere I did go. Firstly "Famous Car Company" a phone call, immediately \$50 cheaper over the phone quote. Then onto "Torque" situated in the "Terrace", Perth. Written quote from them of \$445 for a cover of \$27,000. The people there do seem to know of our cars in detail. Also read your Policy there have be changes to them, like "wreck retention" etc you will be surprised.

I attended a recent Combined Car Clubs meeting the other night and was very interested in the guest speaker (John Palandri). He spoke on his experiences with "Public Liability". Basically, being "Incorporated" as a Club does not give you any protection from having legal action taken against the Club or individuals. For our Club to endeavour to protect itself against litigious action we would probably need a policy to cover us for around \$8,000,000, at an annual cost of \$2,000. What car club can afford that fee? Probably none. However, the National Body of car clubs is looking into taking a policy that will cover all Clubs affiliated with State and National Body and Clubs will pay on a pro-rata basis of numbers of members. (more details in the coming weeks)

Now guys it was quite evident to me, that those of us that have "active side pipes" on our cars are in danger of having legal actions taken against the us (Individual and Club Executive) should someone be burnt from these hot exhaust systems. Heat shields are mandatory under the ADR's and just maybe our Club should enforce this Rule as a "Duty of Care" to the Public.

**More from Whiteman
Park 2002**





**Office bearers of the
Cobra Car Club of WA, 2001-2002**

The Club magazine needs your support, so phone, fax or email anything to me of interest for Club Members.

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