



THE WORM REVIEW

16 February 2005

ONLY one page this month. PCCV members will be receiving a 50 page publication on the first 50 years of the club and Torque will be reduced in size.

Over the last 14 years I have kept in touch with where worm parts are available overseas and kept Australian worm drivers informed. Someone needs to take over this role. Early on I even imported parts to sell them on but the international acceptance of credit has made this unnecessary. Also some very slow payers and gunnas who wanted parts but never wanted them when they arrived tended to reduce my enthusiasm. Think about it. Thanks to all who have asked about my health. I have lost a lot of weight (which might be a good thing!) and I tire easily but it all seems to be under control.

The Fiftieth Birthday of the 403

50 years ago, soon, on 20th April 1955, Peugeot unveiled its latest car, the 403, in the enclosure of the Trocadero monument in Paris. One hundred 403s were lined up backed into the kerb for presentation to the Peugeot dealers etc. Eventually the dealers were given the keys of a 403 to drive away.



On Sunday 17th April 2005 permission has been given for 403s to assemble in the same place. Organisers hope to get at least 100 403s lined up.

Another 404 cabriolet

A 404 cabriolet has been imported from USA and is now under professional restoration in a Melbourne workshop. The body shell has been gently sand blasted and is now on a spit having rust repairs. The rust is not too bad, much



Above: The Sloane 203 joined the challenge for the moto rider at the Yarrowonga Show. Photo from the Yarrowonga Chronicle.

Right: A postcard from the Nollean collection.



less than in GRM404. The important structural sills are rust free except at the A pillar end. The floor has a series of rust holes but it wont require the transplant of a 404 sedan floor like my 404 cabriolet did. That makes eight 404 cabriolets that I am aware of in Australia. GRM404 is the only one fully restored. There is another one on the road but in need of restoration. I have not heard of any recent restoration progress on any of the others.

Well oiled helpers

Last year I drove my 404 sedan from our beach house into Geelong to buy some bolts. Parking was a bit rare near the bolt shop but I eventually found a parking spot outside a nearby hotel. When I returned to the 404 there was a large bus double parked. I signalled to the driver and he moved back to let me out. I turned the starter but the 404 didn't want to start. At my second try a large boisterous crowd poured out of the hotel and headed for the bus, some wearing beanies and scarves and other football regalia. I had immediate offers of help like pushing me down the road or towing me with the bus and other suggestions not always polite. With every smart arse suggestion there was a big laugh from the well oiled crowd. After about 6 attempts the engine fired and I drove off to loud cheers. Subsequently I found out that a local football team had

just won the premiership and were out on a pub crawl celebrating. I must be careful where I park in future, especially after grand final weekend.

203 castings

The batch of reproduction 203 cap over the gear lever cast in aluminium have all been sold.



I am noting expressions of interest and when I have 10 interested persons I propose to have another batch made. I have 4 expressions of interest so far.