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On the cover A Renault Twizy, looking right at home among the scooters in Via della Rotonda, Rome Photo by Geoff Pillans

FRENCH CAR TORQUE

Official journal of the French Car Club of Canberra Inc. (FCCC)

PO Box 4183, Hawker, ACT, 2614.

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Bonjour Francophiles,

When I booked my Peugeot 508 in for a 135k service at McGrath Peugeot, recently, I asked whether I might have a loan car while the car was being serviced. My request was duly noted and when I dropped off my car, I was delighted to receive a new Citroen C3 for the day. And when I say "new", I mean absolutely new – it 80 km on the odometer when I picked it up and 126 km when I returned it.





Citroen C3 loan car from McGrath Peugeot

The C3 was a good drive – despite my lanky frame, I found a comfortable driving position, without my head touching the roof, and with a clear view of the instrument cluster. Lots of cars look the same these days, but the side panel trim on the C3 makes it stand out from the crowd. Sue and I are not in the market for a new car, but my thanks to McGrath for giving me the opportunity to size one up.

In last month's column I mused about buying a Peugeot RCZ that John Thorne had for sale. John's RCZ drove very well, but in the end the car was for Sue, and she wanted an automatic rather than a manual. Plus, we would have to organise the sale of her 308 and it was all too hard – for the moment...

One car option that is not available, in Australia, at least, is the Renault Twizy, featured on the front cover of this issue. My son, Geoff, snapped the picture in Rome last year, across the road from the Pantheon. Geoff says that Renault Twizys and Citroen Amis seemed quite popular in Rome. In fact, he saw more of them in Rome than in Paris. A Parisian told him that they weren't popular in Paris because they are a target for teenage vandals – too easy to tip them over on their side!

The next club meeting will be held at 8 pm on Tuesday 25th July at the Raiders Weston Club, with dinner and drinks from 7 pm, as usual.

Au revoir.

Brad Pillans, Club President



2022-23 FCC COMMITTEE

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CLUB EVENTS 2023

25 July French Car Club of Canberra meeting, Raiders Club, 1 Liardet St, Weston, with dinner from 7pm & meeting at 8pm.

22 August French Car Club of Canberra meeting, Raiders Club, 1 Liardet St, Weston, with dinner from 7pm & meeting at 8pm.

27 August French Car Drive to Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve, Wildbark café, https://www.wildbark.org/eat-1

26 September French Car Club of Canberra meeting, Raiders Club, 1 Liardet St, Weston, with dinner from 7pm & meeting at 8pm.

22 October French Car Drive to Cooma Motor Museum https://www.coomacarclub.com.au/Motor-Museum

24 October French Car Club of Canberra meeting, Raiders Club, 1 Liardet St, Weston, with dinner from 7pm & meeting at 8pm.

Early November. French Car Day. Date to be advised.

28 November French Car Club of Canberra meeting, Raiders Club, 1 Liardet St, Weston, with dinner from 7pm & meeting at 8pm

Early December Christmas BBQ. Date to be advised.

French Car Drives in 2023 and 2024

These occur on the 4th Sunday of even months (except December). If you have any other suggestions of places to visit, please send me an email on reno1338@hotmail.com. Lisa Molvig, Social Secretary

French Car Drive to Sutton, Sunday 25 June: Little Sutton Bakehouse

It was a blustery winters' afternoon for our outing to Sutton, but it was very popular. The café had forgotten our booking, but we managed to squeeze our group in once the lunchtime rush of customers had cleared. We had 20 in our group, 11 from the FCCC and 9 from the Rover club. Choice of bakery goods was a bit limited due to lots of customers prior to us, so probably best to visit this bakery in the morning in future.

After our coffee and snacks some of us visited the Village Gallery next door, https://www.suttonvillagegallery.com/collection/, while others looked at the cars.



Citroen DS Safari and Bentley belonging to FCCC member Paul James. Photo Chris Forsey.

Bastille Day celebration, Friday 14th July 2023

Lisa Molvig

FCCC members gathered to celebrate Bastille Day at Breizh Café in Ainslie for coffee and crepes. Thirteen people enjoyed the sweet or savoury offerings on their menu. The café was full; not sure if that was usual for a Friday morning or due to the special occasion. Afterwards we looked at the French cars belonging to our group in the streets around Ainslie shops, this included three Citroen 2CV.



Happy Bastille Day. Photo: Lisa Molvig



Two red Citroen 2CV, owners Ian Gamble and Joel Krewaz Photo: Lisa Molvig



2CV owned by Bruce McCubbin Photo: Lisa Molvia

Citroen Xantia owned by Michael Fleetwood Photo: Lisa Molvig





Renault 12 owned by Lisa Molvig, Audi owned by Leigh McEwan with lan's 2CV lurking behind. Photo: Leigh McEwan

Peugeot sales in Australia

Joshua Dowling, Drive

Peugeot sales in Australia have been in decline for 13 of the past 15 years – and the current rate of new-car deliveries is barely a quarter of its peak two decades ago – but Peugeot Australia boss, Kate Gillis says it is here for the long haul.

The biggest-selling model in the Peugeot range last year was a small delivery van – rather than the hatchbacks and SUVs it is best known for – amid waning interest in its passenger-car range in Australia. Indeed, so far this year, three vans – small, medium and large – have accounted for 40 per cent of Peugeot sales in Australia.

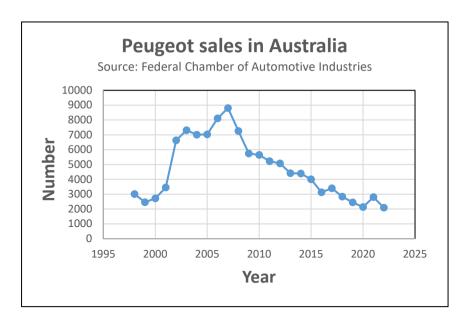


Top sellers, from left: Boxer, Expert and Partner vans.

Peugeot Australia says it has a range of updated, facelifted or new models just around the corner including two plug-in hybrids (the quirky, high-riding Peugeot 408 liftback, and the 508 wagon) and an electric version of the 2008 SUV.

All three vehicles are due in local showrooms by the end of this year, ahead of next year's arrival of the Peugeot e-Expert mid-size van, the new E-208 electric city hatch, and the next-generation Peugeot 3008 SUV, which is set to adopt 'coupe' styling and electric power.

Full story: https://www.drive.com.au/news/peugeot-sales-australia-2023/



Peugeot has 35 showrooms and service points nationally (and a 36th outlet that is a service point only) but is so confident about its sales growth it is considering expanding its dealer network.

"There are some opportunities that exist (in some parts of Australia) where we are not represented, so it's a matter of finding the right partner for us," said the Peugeot executive.



The e-2008 SUV, due in Australia later this year

CLASSIFIEDS

For sale, parts and wrecking

If you want to advertise something for sale or simply offer items free to a good home, then this is a good place to let other club members know.

Please contact either Colin Handley (0414 484 398) or Brad Pillans (0427 662 112) to place an ad.

For sale

Early Peugeot 404 instrument cluster

Also have front indicator light and bumper bar over-riders to suit same model. Make an offer. Contact Lisa 0412-011927 or reno1338@hotmail.com



Topran 350 mm inner steering arms

For Citroen C4 and Peugeot; number 3812EO, \$40 pair Contact Colin: 0414 484 398

Peugeot sunroofs

Complete 203 and 404 sunroofs. Best Offer. Colin 0414 484 398.

Peugeot items

505 STI auto , needs fuel pump 2 x 406 petrol auto sedans ,located in Bombala ,also 403 gearbox. Best offer for each. Contact Neville 0429 168 595

Peugeot memorabilia

Early 20th cent advertising posters. Approximately 380mm high by 280 wide. Bought from a market stall in Avignon. \$30 the lot plus postage. Contact Mike Garrett mike.garrett@bigpond.com







Berlingo 4 stud wheel and good tyre

A steal at \$5. Contact Colin: 0414 484 398

Peugeot bits

505 power steering seals \$5 each, new 405 and 505 rack boots \$10 each, 504 and 505 trapezoidal headlights

Contact Colin: 0414 484 398

For sale (cont)

Peugeot 504 sedans

3xdiesel 504 sedans, one nice body, one for spares plus a bent one, on trailer, for delivery. Offers. Located near Candelo. Contact: Ian Wood (02) 6493 2019.

Peugeot 306XT (see pictures on right)

One owner 1994 4 door hatch, 1.8L petrol engine, manual transmission, 348,000 km, tinted windows, electric sunroof, fog lights, registered in ACT until Sept 2023. Offers.

Gitane folding bike

Mid 1970s. Nice original condition for renovation. \$40 ono. Located in the Canberra region. Contact Chris 0413 996 481 or lynwood327@gmail.com



Wrecking

Black 2008 Peugeot 407 SV V6 petrol sedan.

Just over 98,000kms on the odometer and was driven to where it now lays. Has major oil leaks in the engine and a split cooling system "evaporation chamber" and a small scrape on the back offside mudguard. If anyone is interested in any bits please contact Flash on 0418 110 078, and we will see if it is something we don't need and then see if we can get it off without too much drama.

Wanted

Roof rack for Peugeot 403 station wagon

Contact Flash: 0418 110 078



French cycling team: AG2R Citroen

Lisa Molvig

I've been watching the Tour de France this year and noticed the name Citroen in one of the teams. Citroen isn't known for bicycle manufacturing, unlike Peugeot which has a long history. So, I did a bit of research to learn more about this cycling team.

AG2R Citroën Team (<u>UCI</u> team code: ACT) is a French <u>cycling</u> team with <u>UCI WorldTeam</u> status. Its title sponsors are French insurance firm <u>AG2R La Mondiale</u> and Citroen. The team is predominantly French.

In 1992 Vincent Lavenu, who had just retired from professional cycling, started a professional cycling team with Chazal as the main sponsor. The insurance company Ag2r Prevoyance took over as the main sponsor in 2000. The team has been known under the name AG2R Citroën Team since the 2021 season after Citroen announced that they had become the co-sponsor of the team.

The bicycles used by this team have been:

Factor (To 2018)

Eddy Merckx Cycles (2019–2020)

BMC (2021–)

The current bikes from BMC are Swiss, the previous Eddy Merckx bikes were Belgian.

Australian rider Ben O'Connor was the winner of the 9th stage of the Tour de France 2022 and 4th overall that year. This year he is also doing quite well. He came 3rd in stage 10 and is currently 21 in the yellow jersey rankings.

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-07-12/ben-oconnor-finishes-third-in-tour-de-france-10th-stage/102590516

So far in the Tour de France this year, AG2R Citroen has won stage 17, by rider Felix Gall.

Hopefully they will have some more stage wins this year.

References:

https://ag2rcitroenteam.com/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AG2R Citro%C3%ABn Team





Ben O'Connor was part of a breakaway group during a gruelling 10th stage at the Tour de France 2023. Getty Images.

Peugeot P4 in New Caledonia

Lisa Molvig & Simon Hermes

Simon has recently been in New Caledonia and reported that he hadn't seen any cars older than 5 years in Noumea. He suspected that rust from salt air was main reason. He was there on Bastille Day and sent me a photo of a Peugeot being used by the government officials in the parade.



It is a Peugeot P4 utility vehicle, which is an unarmoured off-road vehicle used by the French military. It was originally manufactured by Peugeot but is now manufactured by Panhard. The P4 is a derivative of the Mercedes Geländewagen military version built under license by Peugeot, which did not have a licence to export the vehicle anywhere other than to the countries bound to France by defence agreements.

The P4 was initially designed in the 1970s. Agreement was reached between Peugeot and Mercedes to co-produce the vehicle on a 50:50 basis. Peugeot installed their 504 engine and 604 gearbox on the Mercedes-Benz G-Class; it also installed the electrical systems, welded the exterior and painted the car. The rest was done by Mercedes. The plant in Sochaux did the final assembly. They were available in both petrol and diesel versions. Peugeot P4 have also been used in the Dakar Rally, both in the 1980s and more recently in the Dakar Classic.

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peugeot_P4

Renault 10 advertising - 1967



That Touch of Mink 1962

Brad Pillans

Peter Wilson drew my attention to this item, via the Italian French Car Club website.

Take two of Hollywood's most famous actors of the time: Doris Day and Cary Grant, add a luxurious, very elegant European-made car,

designed by an Italian stylist, Flaminio
Bertoni, built in Paris by Citroën, dressed by a
famous Levallois coachbuilder named Henri
Chapron. Put everything in front of a camera
and expect to get a memorable film.

The film was "That Touch of Mink", a 1962 film by American director, Delbert Mann, which was produced and shot in Hollywood. It won a Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy, and was nominated for (but did not win) three Academy Awards for Best Director, Best Sound and Best Original Screenplay. It was the 4th highest-grossing film of 1962.



Although the film was shot in Hollywood, most of the action is supposedly taking place in Bermuda, with Grant driving around in a Panama Beige 1961 Citroen DS 19 Décapotable *Usine Chapron*, the roadster model of the iconic DS 19. The fact that he drives around on the right-hand side of the road is a bit of an own goal – cars drive on the left in Bermuda, a former British colony. Nevertheless, the car was a hit and lots of Americans wanted one. Within a few years Hollywood and more generally, California, was populated by DS's, including sedans and cabriolets. Many well-known actors and directors bought DS's and later also SM's, including Francis Ford Coppola who is said to still own two DS sedans today.

Cary Grant is said to have rung Citroen in 1961 to order a new car for use in the film. The factory responded by shipping "the display model" to the studio without hesitation. Two DS19 Décapotable were apparently specially imported for the film on board an Air France Lockheed Super Constellation.

@2023 – Historical Club Peugeot Citroën DS Italy







Return of the Peugeot 208

Matt Brogan, GoAuto, 7 July 2023

Peugeot has announced that its 208 compact hatch will return to Australia from 2024, this time with all-electric power. Enter the E-208.

The E-208 will arrive as a highly specified variant that will challenge the likes of the Cupra Born (from \$59,990), Fiat 500e (from \$52,500 +ORC), Mini Cooper SE (from \$64,975 +ORC) and Nissan Leaf (from \$50,990).

It is expected the E-208 offered locally will be equipped with a 51kWH battery pack to provide the model with a 400km (WLTP) driving range; the front-wheel drive hatch featuring a 115kW/260Nm electric motor.

AC charging at up to 7kW can replenish the E-208's battery in seven hours, while DC fast charging – at up to 100kW – can take the state of charge from 10 to 80 per cent in as little as 30 minutes.

Peugeot is expected to announce a release date, as well as pricing and specification information, towards the end of this year. Around the same time, it will release its all-electric E-2008 SUV Down Under, priced from \$59,990 plus on-road costs.



Full story: https://goauto.com.au/future-models/peugeot/208/e208/peugeot-e-208-australia-bound/2023-07-07/91405.html

New Stellantis BEV platform

Matt Brogan, GoAuto, 6 July 2023

Stellantis has unveiled its STLA Medium battery electric platform, which the conglomerate will use to underpin up to two million cars annually by decade's end and claimed to deliver best-in-class energy efficiency, embedded power and charging power, with driving range of up to 700km.



The modular design is designed to meet the requirements of future C- and D-segment vehicles, which accounted for 35 million global sales in 2022 – or nearly half of the 78.5 million vehicles sold globally that year.

As of 2023, Stellantis brands offer 26 vehicle nameplates in those segments on a variety of platforms. Consolidating these onto a single design brings obvious benefits, not least of all a fatter profit margin! It is also seen as key to helping the company achieve 100 per cent BEV sales in Europe and a 50 per cent passenger car and light-duty truck mix in the United States by 2030.

It is expected that the first vehicle to be produced on the STLA Medium platform will be the next-generation Peugeot 3008 SUV which will be revealed towards the end of 2023.

Full story: https://goauto.com.au/news/stellantis/stellantis-lays-ground-for-mass-bev-adoption/2023-07-06/91395.html

Stellantis: Guilt-free ICE

Peter Barnwell, GoAutoNews, 22 April 2023

Stellantis has, in addition to e-power, jumped on the synthetic fuel (efuel) bus presuming to keep combustion engines alive during a transition to electric power.

The multi-brand manufacturer has embarked on a massive e-fuel test program ordering 28 different engine families in its portfolio to be stress tested with synthetic e-fuel.

Stellantis says its goal with testing e-fuels is to help accelerate the potential reduction in carbon emissions using the fuels which are made by recapturing carbon emissions already present in the atmosphere and processing it into a fuel source with renewable energy.



Australia stands to benefit from any broad use of e-fuels as Tasmania has been proposed by Highly Innovative Fuels Global (HIF) as a location for e-fuel production. The venture is backed by Porsche with a 12.5 per cent share in the enterprise representing a \$A100 million investment.

HIF Australia chief executive officer, Ignacio Hernandez, said the company sought areas that had abundant supplies of renewable energy (notably wind) as well as existing infrastructure for the construction of its production plants.

It has already commenced construction of the Haru Oni pilot plant in Punta Arenas (Chile) and, in addition to Australia, plans to next set up facilities in the United States where construction is expected to start soon. Production of e-fuels from hydrogen and CO2 using wind energy is expected to start at the Chilean Patagonian facility later this year (2022), our report said. The plant is expected to expand in two stages to around 55 million litres by 2024, and around 550 million litres by 2026.

Porsche is targeting a wholesale price of \$US2.00 per litre once production has ramped up, but how much it will cost the consumer will vary based on how governments decide to tax it.

Synthetic e-fuel (methanol-based and including LPG) enables the nearly CO2-neutral operation of combustion engines because the CO2 used to create the fuel is drawn from the atmosphere.

Compared to conventional fossil fuels, which have between 30 and 40 components, synthetic fuels have as few as eight. There are fewer contaminants in e-fuel, so it is better for engines and the environment.

Porsche says it reduces emissions by around 85 per cent compared to that emitted by todays unleaded.

In a similar fashion to ethanol, e-fuel can also power modern ICE vehicles either on its own, or when blended with fossil fuel-based petrol.

According to US publication *TheDrive*, Stellantis' most recent tests, which are in the finalisation stage for petrol- and diesel-powered engines, are meant to gauge important details like power, reliability, and tailpipe emissions.

The publication reports, "The automaker says that by investing in efuels, it is potentially ensuring that customers with an existing ICE-powered vehicle will have an affordable, drop-in option to 'decarbonise' their vehicles without having to upgrade the fuel system, worry about the EV charging infrastructure, or replace their existing vehicle with a new or used electric car".

Stellantis CEO, Carlos Tavares says "By working to make sure our Stellantis engines are e-fuels friendly, we are aiming at giving our customers another tool in the fight against global warming and one that can have an almost immediate impact."

Full story: https://goauto.com.au/news/stellantis/news/stellantis-throws-its-hat-in-the-e-fuels-ring/2023-04-27/90851.html#!prettyPhoto

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Citroen GS Camargue

Brad Pillans

The Citroen GS Camargue was a two-door coupe concept car based on the Citroen GS sedan. It was presented at the Geneva and London Motor Shows in 1972, but never went into production. It was the first Citroen built in collaboration with Italian design company, Bertone, which went on to produce the Citroen BX.

It used GS mechanical components and was the same overall length, but 6 cm wider and 2 cm lower. Just why such a cool-looking car never made it to production is unclear, but it sounds like the GS sedan was so popular (almost 2.5 million sold) that Citroen decided not to muck around with an already big seller.

The name, Camargue, was subsequently pinched by Rolls Royce for a two-door Pininfarina-designed flagship coupe in 1975.

In the end, it seems that the GS Camargue was an elaborate Bertone business card, something to show Citroen what they were capable of.



Renault technical help

Barry McAdie, FCCC Technical Officer

The FCCC has a library, special tools and consumables to help members to maintain their Renaults. These items are at my place in Fraser for access by FCCC members.

There are Renault factory workshop manuals that cover various Renault models like the 4CV, Fregate, Caravelle, Domaine, R4,R10,R12,R15,R16,R17,R18, R20,R30 and Fuego. There are also numerous Renault factory parts manuals covering the above models plus R5,R8,R25 and specialised manuals on engines, auto transmissions and manual gearboxes, paint and electrical items.

In addition, there are after-market manuals published by Haynes, Autobooks, Scientific, Intereurope & Glenns covering various models. Manuals are available for loan to members on payment of a deposit of \$20 for each and will be refunded on return of the item.mThere also several special tools to help in repair and maintenance of your Renault which are available for loan to members on payment of a \$50 deposit refunded on return.

FCCC also has consumable items like oil and air filters available for sale at cost to members. These are listed below:

Air Filters: Purflux, Renault and RYCO brands to suit Fuego, R5,R12,R15,R16,R17,R18, R19,R20,R21,R25,R25V6 and a Citroen. Cost for each is \$15 and only 14 in total are available.

Oil Filters: 3 x Purflux M20 to suit Fuego,R18,R21,R25, Laguna and R20TS (RYCO) and 2 x PBR BE1092 to suit Pug 504 Diesel, 505 and petrol 505. Cost is \$15 each.

Drive shaft boot kits: 4 x SASIC brand 4003405 to suit R5,R12,R14,R16,R17,R18,R20 and 3 x Neumans brand MR1219 to suit R12. Cost per kit is \$15.

If not sold to club members over the next few months, they will be offered for wider sale elsewhere such as on aussiefrogs or eBay with funds returned to the club.

Please contact me via email (<u>bardot@homemail.com.au</u>) if you need any of the above.

French Car Club of Canberra Inc General Meeting 27 June 2023 MINUTES



1. Present

lan gamble Neil Birch Lisa Molvig Glen Brydent Charles Birch Jim Taylor Peter Galvin Ross Stephens Brad Pillans Bridette Enders Barry McAdie Neil Sperring Colin Handley Leigh McEwan

2. Apologies

Greg Francis Ian Brock Bill McNamee Joel Krewaz

3. Introduction

The meeting opened at 8.22 pm. Brad Pillans welcomed members to the meeting.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the June meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved Jim, seconded Brad, carried unanimously.

5. Financial report

Balance of \$4,558.46 with three term deposits of \$5000 each.

Overall current balance is \$19,558.46.

Neil noted that the new Renault dealer has paid for 12 months advertising in FCT. CACTMC fees have been paid

Motion: that the financial report be accepted. Moved Neil Birch, seconded Colin, carried unanimously.

6. General Business

CACTMC report:

Plastic sleeves for logbooks should be ready in the next week or so. Clubs to collect at one of the next 2 Council Meetings. Our club affiliation has been completed and confirmed.

The Council Registrar is seeking affiliated clubs' feedback on the 60-day usage scheme. Suggestions on ways to improve the scheme are welcome. Still looking for a club to organise Wheels 2024. The Canberra Antique & Classic Motor Club have done it for the past five years. Terribly British Day needs a new organising club as the previous club has withdrawn. It is scheduled for the first Sunday in December. Council is a bit short of information about coming events for its web page and has requested that affiliated clubs inform Council Events Manager of coming events.

Social:

Battle of Waterloo was good, see Lisa's report in June FCT. French Car Drive to Little Sutton Bakehouse was well attended, 20 people, 12 from FCCC and 8 from Rover Club. Next drive is to Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve on 27 August. A new café has opened there. Lisa has purchased a new Renault, it's the smallest she has ever owned, it came in its own little box, she got it at Coles. Lisa retired today; she may organise some things for weekdays in future.

Other business:

Brad reported that the Peugeot dealer has moved to 158 Melrose Drive. The increased visibility has led to increased sales. They currently have no used Peugeots on their lot because Peugeot drivers keep them too long! Redex Rerun 6 August. Wagga swap meeting 16 July, same day as All French Car Day in Sydney. Lisa to email circular.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm. Next meeting will be at the Raiders Club at 8 pm on Tuesday 25th July.





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