

# French Car Torque

# Magazine of the French Car Club of Canberra



# September 2023





On the cover REDEX Rerun cars in front of Old Parliament House, Canberra, on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
Photo by Brad Pillans

## FRENCH CAR TORQUE

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

PO Box 4183, Hawker, ACT, 2614.

The French Car Club of Canberra website is at:  
<https://frenchcarclubofcanberra.com.au/>

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Bonjour Francophiles,

In last month's column, Sue and I were in Brisbane, heading for Fraser Island in our 508. See page 11 for a couple more pics of the trip.

It was an easy 3½ hour drive from Brisbane up to Rainbow Beach, where we stayed 3 nights in a comfortable apartment, centrally located within walking distance of shops and eateries.

Things almost turned pear-shaped when we visited the local tourist information centre and were told we would not be able to cross to Fraser Island (Aboriginal name K'gari) on the barge that goes from Inskip Point, just north of Rainbow Beach, unless we had a 4-wheel drive vehicle. Knowing that only 4WD vehicles can make the crossing, we had cunningly decided to cross as foot passengers because we only wanted to walk to Hook Point (and back), with the walk likely to take 5 or 6 hours. That was apparently an unacceptable insurance risk for the barge operators, who would be legally liable if anything happened to us – kidnapped by dingoes, perhaps?

Fortunately, our obliging apartment host knew the barge owner, and a quick phone call resolved the issue in our favour – we safely did our Hook Point walk and as a bonus, we crossed on the barge at no charge (compared to \$150 for a 4WD vehicle). We also did some lovely walks on Rainbow Beach and through rainforest in Great Sandy National Park.

Then it was back to Brisbane and the trip home, with overnight stops in cheap (but clean) motels in Grafton and Bulahdelah.

Grafton turned out to be particularly interesting, as we discovered the history of the double-decker road-railway bridge across the Clarence River. The bridge, which was opened in 1932, was the last link in the Sydney-Brisbane railway line. Prior to that, trains from Sydney stopped at South Grafton and passengers crossed the river on a ferry, before reboarding another train on the north side. From 1925 to 1932 a rail ferry actually took carriages across the river. The rail ferry was built in Aberdeen 1891 as the SS Induna, a 60-metre long steam ship that traded in Africa and the western Pacific. It was famously known as the ship that carried Winston Churchill to safety, during the Boer War, after he escaped from a prison camp in Pretoria in 1899. The hulk of the Induna still rests in mud on the south bank of the Clarence River, just upstream of the Grafton rail bridge. I confess, I never knew there was a Grafton link to Winston Churchill. See: <https://winstonchurchill.hillsdale.edu/induna-soames/>

The 508 returned a creditable 5.3 litres/100 km on our 3000 km trip.



*Sue watches as the barge pulls in to take us across to Fraser Island*

The next club meeting is the club's AGM, which will be held at 8 pm on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August at the Raiders Club, in Weston, with dinner and drinks from 7 pm.

Au revoir,

*Brad Pillans*

Brad Pillans, Club President



# 2022-23 FCC COMMITTEE

## President

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Lisa Molvig  
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Greg Francis  
Neil Sperring

## Club Registrars

Brad Pillans  
Lisa Molvig  
[reno1338@hotmail.com](mailto:reno1338@hotmail.com)





# CLUB EVENTS 2023

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

### Calendar

**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.

**4 November.** **French Car Day.** Telopea Park School

**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:reno1338@hotmail.com). Lisa Molvig, Social Secretary

<b>French Car Festival</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>October 22</b> <b>2023</b>  Patterson Reserve 484 Auburn Road Hawthorn Vic 3122 ( northern gate near pedestrian crossing)  Gates open 9.00 am Entry Fee \$10 per car	  <b>RENAULT</b>   <b>CITROËN</b>       	<b>Large Displays of Cars</b>  <b>Concours for each participating Club</b>  <b>Club t-Shirts, Badges, Caps etc for sale</b>  <b>Coffee Van on site</b>  <b>BYO Picnic Lunch</b>
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**29 October 2023** Canberra Swap Meet, 7am to 2pm, Hall Showgrounds  
Details: <https://vvcmmc.org/swapmeet/>

**25 February 2024** Shannons Wheels, Queanbeyan Showgrounds

The website of the Council of ACT Motor Clubs has a calendar of car club events in the Canberra region – always worth a look...  
[https://www.cactmc.org.au/cactmc\\_calendar.html](https://www.cactmc.org.au/cactmc_calendar.html)

# French Car Drive: Mulligans Flat

Chris Forsey

Once again the French Car Club of Canberra and the Rover Owners Club gathered for a shared outing – this time to Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary at Throsby, ACT.

Our clubs have been participating in joint outings for a couple of years and this has proved to be a successful model for sharing events and meeting fellow enthusiasts. The Wildbark resource centre acts as a gateway to the sanctuary which is free of cats, foxes, rabbits and hares and covers 1200 hectares. There are guided and non-guided walks that you can do within the sanctuary, including evening walks. And there is a café/restaurant within Wildbark which is where we met for coffee and eats.

On this occasion with 20 people attending, the Rover folk outnumbered the folk from the FCCC but this didn't matter as there was plenty of good conversation and good food. In the car park we spotted a Renault 16 (Karl), Peugeot 407 (Neil and Charles), Peugeot 505 (Brian and Kath), Citroen Xantia (Mike and Lorna), Jensen Interceptor, Rover P5B, Ford Capri, Rover SD1 and a 1959 Rover 105 which was the oldest car in our group. Another great outing!



Brian and Kath's Peugeot 505



Carpark collaboration



Coffee shop crew in good spirits



## Mulligans Flat (cont)



*Pretty rear ends*



*Jensen Interceptor*



*Rover 105*



*Ford Capri with Rover SD1*



*Renault 16 with a Rover P5B*



*Mike & Lorna's  
Citroen Xantia*

# 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](mailto:reno1338@hotmail.com)



### Peugeot 505 manual sedan

White, 1984, very good condition, on club plates. \$2,300.  
Contact Neville: 0429 168 595

### 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mike.garrett@bigpond.com)



### Peugeot bits

403 front guards, 403 outer sills, 403, 203 diffs; second hand windscreens, several 03 crankshafts, 604 504 diff centres and shafts, offers. Contact Neville: 0429 168 595



## 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. Contact: Andrew 0407 296 345.

## 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

## For disposal (mostly free)

(1)\* **Peugeot 504 GL sedan** 4-sp manual, manufactured August/1980, silver-grey. VIN 504A11 3328162. Complete, running OK when registration lapsed 2008. Condition: upholstery (blue velveteen) very good, exterior poor.

(2) **Peugeot 505 Sti sedan** 5-sp manual, manufactured Feb/1984, blue. VIN VF3551A36E1662859, ZDJL engine, 413,000km. Largely complete but condition very poor.

(3) **Peugeot 505 Gti sedan** automatic, manufactured ?, silver. Largely complete but condition very poor.

(4)\* **Peugeot 505 Gti sedan** 5-sp manual, manufactured April/1985, red. VIN 3551A86F1781262, engine, Bosch LE Jetronic injection, 190,000km, mag wheels. Last registered 2016, condition poor/fair, minimal work needed to make driveable.

(5) **Set of 5 mag wheels** with 195/70R14 tyres (Peugeot CETEF 061300, ex station wagon but fitted to Sti sedan above). Sound condition.

(6)\*\*\* **Fuel sender unit and gasket** P/N 1526.74 2004 brand new, unused (Jaeger 320836) \$35

(7)\*\*\* **Piston and cylinder kit** to suit ZDJ engine (Sti). ENS 6139 26/11/2005, French Bretille brand with instructions. Brand new unused. \$500

(8) **Towbars for 504, 505.**

All above items are free to collect excepting:

\*\*\* the new parts (6) and (7) for which I am asking a suitable price,

\* vehicles (1) and (4) free but prefer to dispose of as entire vehicle.

Expressions of interest to: Gary Hovey 02-4842 8181 or 0429 484 281 or email gary DOT hovey AT anu DOT edu DOT au.

# Peugeot e-2008 BEV

Haitham Razagui, GoAuto, 6 September 2023

Coming soon Peugeot's first fully electric car to go on sale in Australia, the e-2008 small SUV, is claimed to have the longest standard equipment list offered anywhere globally on the model, helping to justify its price tag of \$59,990 plus on-road costs.

Replacing the petrol-powered \$51,188 +ORC GT Sport variant at the top of the 2008 line-up, the battery electric version's outputs of 100kW and 260Nm are 14kW down but 20Nm up on the GT Sports' 1.2-litre turbo unit – with an extra 261kg of weight to shift.

Asked why Australians would pay \$60K for a small electric SUV with relatively short 328km (WLTP) battery range and average 100kW DC rapid charging capability, Peugeot Australia managing director Kate Gillis said the e-2008's quality, European cachet, and styling, as well as Peugeot's heritage, "tick a lot of boxes" for potential buyers.

However, for the same money, those looking for a small European battery electric vehicle (BEV) could look at the identically priced Born from Spanish newcomer, Cupra, that has an official range figure 183km greater than the Peugeot and its 32kWh-bigger 82kWh battery pack can accept 70kW more from a DC rapid charger.

The rear-wheel drive Cupra's more powerful 170kW/310Nm electric motor is claimed to deliver a seven-second 0-100km/h sprint time whereas the front-drive Peugeot is estimated to do the same in around 8.5s – similar to the petrol GT Sport it replaces.

On the other hand, the only available options on the comprehensively equipped e-2008 are metallic (\$690) or premium (\$1050) paint whereas Cupra asks \$2900 for an Interior Package upgrade to match some of the Peugeot's standard features such as massage function for the driver's seat.

Until the facelifted Tesla Model 3 arrives in Australia – or the brand does one of its regular price changes – a base variant of the ubiquitous electric sedan undercuts Peugeot by a couple of grand for a bigger car with more range and performance.



Despite strong competition, Ms Gillis said that expressions of interest for the e-2008 had been higher than anticipated, even though the version launching here is about to be superseded overseas by a facelifted model that was revealed in May.

"There's a lot of interest and pleasing interest as well; one thing that we have noticed is that we have customers who want to test drive both (petrol and electric variants)," she said.

They love the look and feel of the 2008 but they're not too sure in terms of what drivetrains so they experience both and then make their decision."

Ms Gillis also confirmed that Peugeot Australia had secured adequate supply of the e-2008 to meet local demand.

Full story: [Customer interest high for Peugeot e-2008 BEV | GoAuto](#)

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**Ed. It would seem that the e-2008 is not quite here yet. The website of local dealer, John McGrath Peugeot Citroen, says: "Coming soon...now available for Pre-Order"**



# Peugeot/Citroen BEVs: No rush downunder

Haitham Fazagui, GoAuto, 15 September 2023

Although Peugeot's electrification journey in Australia is well underway and sister brand Citroen is about to follow suit, local importer Inchcape is not tempted to follow Volvo's example of boldly going battery electric only from 2026 here, nor do the French brands have a local roadmap to axe the internal combustion engine.

Emerging brands – largely originating from China – are quickly becoming mainstream players as Australians go out on a limb to drive an electric car, which Volvo Cars Australia last year seized upon by negotiating an annual supply of 20,000 all-electric models from 2026, sufficient to almost double sales volume compared with its record 2022 result.

Peugeot and Citroen sales in Australia have slumped during the past decade and brand recognition for both remains low despite both having a long history in this market, but neither will attempt to replicate Volvo's ambitious electric-only switch.

Globally, Volvo will become an electric-only brand by 2030 while Peugeot and Citroen will do the same in Europe under the policy of parent company Stellantis to sell only battery electric vehicles on the continent from next decade (at which point the group is also targeting 50 per cent sales in North America to be zero tailpipe emissions models).

With the recent launch of the E-2008 electric small SUV and E-Partner electric compact van joining plug-in hybrid versions of the 508 mid-size and 308 small passenger cars, Peugeot has established a strong electrified line-up, which will expand next year with the E-208 light hatch, E-Expert mid-size van, new-generation E-3008 medium SUV, and 408 plug-in hybrid crossover, while Citroen is confirmed to add a plug-in hybrid version of the C5 X in 2024.

At the recent E-2008 launch in Sydney, Peugeot Citroen Australia managing director Kate Gillis implied that more electric models are in development for this market based on her visit to Citroen facilities in France earlier this year.



However, she denied the existence of any cut-off date for the sale of internal combustion engine models in Australia from either brand.

"The only roadmap we have is really dictated by customer demand. So if there is a demand for choice then we will do what we can to provide that choice," said Ms Gillis. "Whilst there's customer demand, we'll do what we can to meet that demand for choice of powertrains."

Meanwhile, Volvo's electrification bet appears to be paying off. Australian sales year-to-date are up 12.3 per cent and have averaged more than 1000 a month, putting it on track for another record year with 12,000 deliveries.

Of the 8005 Volvos sold so far in 2023, almost 3000 were battery-electric models. For context, Peugeot sold 1649 units in the same timeframe and Citroen 164.

A decade ago, combined Peugeot and Citroen sales outstripped Volvo by a significant margin, with 5071 Peugeots and 1702 Citroens finding Australian homes in 2012 compared with 5375 Volvos.

Full Story: [Volvo's BEV boldness not for Peugeot, Citroen | GoAuto](#)

# August travel pics

Brad Pillans

A couple of nice pics from my recent trip to Queensland (see President's page)

RIGHT: the double-deck road-rail bridge across the Clarence River at Grafton. The stern of the SS Induna hulk is visible in the left foreground.

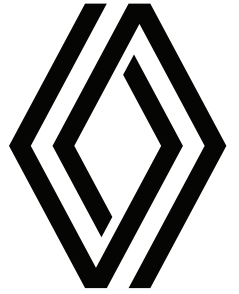
BELOW: Rainbow Beach looking south to Double Island Point (named by Captain Cook). Rainbow Beach gets its name from the brightly coloured sands in the cliffs. Note the wheel tracks – it's a 4WD highway, as is the east coast of Fraser Island/K'gari.





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**French Car Club of Canberra Inc  
General Meeting  
22 August 2023  
MINUTES**



### 1. Present

Greg Francis	Neil Sperring
Neil Birch	Glen Bryden
Barry McAdie	Joel Krewaz
Leigh McEwan	Colin Handley
Charles Birch	

### 2. Apologies

Brad Pillans	Ross Stephens
Lisa Molvig	Ian Brock
Allan Lance	Bill McNamee

### 3. Introduction

The meeting opened at 8.15 pm.  
Colin Handley welcomed members to the meeting.

### 4. Minutes of the previous meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the August meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record.  
Moved Leigh, seconded Greg Francis carried

### 5. Financial report

Account Balance with Bendigo Bank is \$4,327.03 with three term deposits totalling \$15,029.92. Withholding tax was deducted from the term deposit interest; Neil Birch will contact the ATO  
Motion: that the financial report be accepted.  
Moved Neil Birch, seconded Leigh, carried unanimously.

### 6. General Business

#### CACTMC report:

The Council's AGM will be on 19 October. They need to find a new President and probable some other executive positions.

2026 will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Federation Rally in the ACT. The Council wants to hold a rerun to celebrate. Planning has started for a rerun of the motoring carnival in Canberra to be in September 2026.

Neil Sperring mentioned some of the coming events; more details are on Council of ACT Motor Clubs web site.

#### Social:

Next French car drive is to Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve on 27 August. Meet at the new café which has opened there. Colin thanked those who turned out at old Parliament House the welcome the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary rerun of Redex trial on 5<sup>th</sup> August. See article in August FCT.

#### Other business:

Colin thanked Barry for his articles which appeared FCT. Our AGM will be in September, notice of the AGM was in the latest issue of FCT.

### 7. Close and next meeting

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm. Next meeting (our AGM) will be at the Raiders Club, in Weston, at 8 pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> of September.



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