

# ELFIN

OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.

# NEWSLETTER



NUMBER 153 - AUGUST 2022

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## ELF - IN



❖ Small, slight, and delicately - made and proportioned, quick, agile and delicate ( as in movement or thought ), having an otherworldly, unearthly or magical quality.

- Webster's Dictionary.

After 2 years from hell with COVID and other issues, your EODC has made a few changes moving forward.

Importantly, Cheryl Reid has had many, many pressures and has had to relinquish a couple of her roles within the club (Membership Secretary and Newsletter Editorship). You will remember that Cheryl took over from our founding father, Brique Reed, on his untimely passing and has done an outstanding job over the past years. Our heartfelt thanks go out to Cheryl who will continue to offer assistance to the club in the future.

**Newsletter:** In the meantime, Bill Hemming...ably assisted by Abby Wingett...will attempt to edit the Quarterly missive. So any articles, photos, snippets...please forward to:  
[bill@elfinheritage.com.au](mailto:bill@elfinheritage.com.au)

**Membership:** Phil Carter, long standing South Australian member with his magnificently restored Elfin 700, has kindly offered to take on the role of Membership Secretary to update our data base, incorporate new members, and issue membership cards. Enquiries to Phil at: [carterracing@optusnet.com.au](mailto:carterracing@optusnet.com.au)      0421 971 936



## ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.

Well what interesting times we live in. It was heart warming to greet members again at the BBQ in April. (If you remember, our previous BBQ was one of the last events prior to the start of the series of rolling lockdowns.) Members were eager to mingle and compare tales of their adventures, and all were eager to get their Elfins out and on the road/track again. Hopefully many in the Eastern states used the two years to tinker away and finally do those little jobs that they had been putting off for ages. Your Elfins should be purring!

To those residing in the Western states, we envy your relative freedom and we hope that you made the most of it.

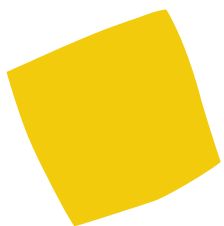
Unfortunately we have lost several of our Elfin champions and passionate long time members. They brought much joy and prestige to the marque and their exploits continue to live in our memories. Rest in peace guys.

Although this is the first newsletter since January 2020, there has been many, many "happenings" despite our world being put on hold...and we now need to catch up and move on.

At this stage, this Newsletter (as started by Cheryl Reid and hurriedly finished by Bill and Abby) is being rushed out to get Club communications back up and running.

It is wonderful to see so many events resuming in the Eastern states, and the next Newsletter should be crammed with reports.

LETS GO !



Chery, Bill and Abby.



## ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.

### BITS 'N' PIECES

Well the Phillip Island Classic is over for another year. Big thanks to BILL HEMMING for letting me loose again in the Vee, also to Gavin Sala for his help in the new exhaust. Came away with second for the weekend, so I am very happy with the result. The car went back in the trailer as it came out! **SHANE LEE**

**FRANK ARRONIS** wowed fans at this year's AGP by revealing his newly restored 600D.



**Elfin mono m6440** flew to its new home in Brisban in pretty good shape. Very original, especially when compared to all the old photos on many websites. Has all cams logbooks back to 1967 and ownership history etc. **MIKE CONNELL** WA had car for about 10 years and prior was Bruce Pound who I've been trying to track down- he's an interesting guy ex 1960's G.P. bike racer and Australian export to Isle of Man TT. That's when men were really men!!

Car has a fresh steel 1500 precrossflow and hollinger box. Looks like original seat upholstery, nonadjustable shocks, imp driveshafts etc. Monocoque looks really good considering age - no sign of movement about rivets but fuel filler pipe and cap carved off the instrument tower to make way for a nicely made scuttle tank that the steering column bisects. So I gather body tanks abandoned at some stage.. Then I'll get into makeover, has a carved up ugly engine cover and a twink cover but will make up a fresh one from old photos - like the twink one with intake bump switched to exhaust side. Have screen mold if anyone needs one. It did have an Imp motor originally but group m logbook shows 1500 pre-crossflow as that's what it was made for. Not sure when it was changed.

Mono's not my first car. While a relative newbie, I've had a Lotus 51 (now with great mate DANIEL BANDO who put me onto Mono's initially - my wife is still trying to track him down. Ha! ), a Brabham BT15 f3 (regretfully had to sell as got overexcited on home renno and needed cash) now with Allan Conway and a Lotus 23 replica.

Have had a heap of help from Noel Tuckey up here who is a legend and also Alan Henry ex Elfin in 60's - he worked on Mono's and many other cars including GARRIE COOPER's f5000's. I could sit for hours and listen to the stories those two can tell!!

Don't know of any other mono's up this way but let me know where, if there is??

**PAUL LITTLER** (PS in the 2 years since this was written, Paul embarked on an extensive home renovation and his beloved Mono has a new home with Colin Schiller.)



## ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.

### OTHER NOTABLE RECENT OWNERSHIP CHANGES:

This list is not definitive. Please advise any changes.

#### STREAMLINER #7

Matt Scott is the lucky new owner of this ex-Peter Manton Streamliner, complete with supercharged MGA motor and 4 wheel disc brakes and knock off wheels from a twin-cam MGA. It shares a garage with Matt's ex-Larry Perkins 600ff.

#### STREAMLINER #9

Bill Tymms has this ex-Jim McKeon Streamliner to go with his MS8 Streamliner and a host of other notable Australian specials.

#### CATALINA 6316

Peter Whelan has sold his Alfa engined 600 and acquired an ex-Jack Hunnam Catalina.

#### CLUBMAN C6512

Frank Arronis has the only Clubman fitted with a factory soft top to go with his repco engined 600.

#### MONO M6446

Mel McEwin's Mk1 Mono is now being finished by Jamie Cole in Victoria.

#### ME 5 6901

The Australian Sports Car Championship winning ME 5 (ex- Niel Allen) has landed back in Tassie with Dave Thompson.

#### 360 S71-03

Malcolm Miller in Adelaide is now campaigning this twin cam sports car.

#### 600B 6805

This special Alfa Romeo engined 600B has left SA for Matthew Bansemer in Victoria.

#### 600B 7013

After being displayed for 12 years at the Elfin Heritage Centre, this beautiful ex-John Bowe and Ross Ambrose car is back on the track and in the garage of Doug Anderson, alongside his Clubman and Catalina.

#### 600B 7017

Des Piggott, a multi elfin owner is undertaking a full restoration of Brian Sampson's Toyota engined 600B.

#### 620FF 73435

Andrew Manning has purchased this car from WA as advertised in the last newsletter. It joins his MS8 Clubman and Streamliner.

#### 623 74443

David Crocker has taken over Vern Hamilton's long term, successful car. Vern and Elaine are bereft!

## MALLALA NEVER DISAPPOINTS:



Mark Scott has a touch of understeer in the dirt.



All Images Bob Taylor  
Bob@bottines.com.au  
ph 08-83074092  
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The curves of **NORM FALKINER's** beautiful **MONO**.... (photo courtesy of Bob Taylor)



When there's a car race meeting, **NOEL BULL** is always there to help out!





## ELFINS DOMINATE AT PHILIP ISLAND CLASSIC:

(Photos courtesy of Autophotos and Peter Knights)



MATT SCOTT watches carefully as Larry Perkins adds his signature.



Nick Bennett driving one Elfin leads father LAURIE BENNETT in another Elfin. At least they're keeping it all in the family....





ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.

FOR SALE:

60th ANNIVERSARY ITEMS:

(Contact CHERYL REID - 0419 581 815  
reidywithchampions@yahoo.com.au)



60th Anniversary Caps -\$25 plus \$10 postage

60th Anniversary Car Stickers  
\$15 each or 2 for \$20

elfin owners & drivers club

New embroidery right sleeve

ELFIN circle logo existing embroidery left breast

ELFIN existing embroidery with 50 years removed Centre Front of cap



ELFIN circle logo existing embroidery left cap panel

elfin owners & drivers club

Existing embroidery over back cap arc

### EODC MERCHANDISE:

(Contact BILL HEMMING -  
bill@elfinheritage.com.au  
polo shirts (S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL)  
- \$35 plus \$10 postage  
caps - \$20 plus \$10 postage  
(polo and cap - \$50 plus \$10 postage)

### ELFIN SPIRIT OF SPEED:

Of the limited print run of 1350 books,  
Less than 300 remain for sale.  
Check out.....

[www.elfinspiritofspeed.com.au](http://www.elfinspiritofspeed.com.au)

for details and testimonials and how to order.

**NEW**

# ELFIN THE SPIRIT OF SPEED

- ▶ A book on an epic scale worthy of Garrie Cooper!
- ▶ Four years in the making from exhaustive research!
- ▶ Stories by the people who were there!

**ELFIN 60th ANNIVERSARY 1959 - 2019 CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF CHAMPIONS**

"Elfin The Spirit of Speed is not a public relations exercise. It is not a fan piece. This book is the true story behind an incredible endeavour. This is the story of Elfin" *Vern Schuppan*

"Ultimately Elfin The Spirit of Speed is about life, it's about birth and death, growth and decay. It's about all the things that make life worth living, and all the hellish things too." *John Bowe*

SPECIFICATIONS	
<b>2019 ELFIN</b>	The Spirit of Speed
<b>WEIGHT</b>	5 kgs
<b>SIZE</b>	290 x 270 x 55 mm
<b>BUILD</b>	1350 limited print run
<b>COPYQTY</b>	704 pages
<b>OPTIONS</b>	Standard, Limited & Ultimate Editions

TEST DRIVE & PURCHASE AT:  
[WWW.ELFINSPIRITOF SPEED.COM.AU](http://WWW.ELFINSPIRITOF SPEED.COM.AU)





**ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.**

**ELFINS IN ACTION AT HISTORIC WINTON:**

*(photos courtesy of Peter Knight)*



**MATT SCOTT** coming through.



**BILL ROBERTS** leads the way.



**MALCOLM MILLER** looking very determined.

G&T time for **BILL HEMMING**



**Laurie Bennett** obviously ate his carrots last night.



ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC

## ROB ROY REVIVAL

Friday, March 24 2023 - Sunday, March 26, 2023

Rob Roy Hillclimb

375 Clintons Road, Christmas Hills. Victoria

The organizing committee of the Rob Roy Revival has chosen to honour Garrie Cooper and Elfin at this inaugural event.

We encourage as many interested Elfin owners as possible to consider adding this unique event to their car's history. Only 100 cars overall- 10 Elfins - will be selected to compete. The track is to undergo major works in 2022, including new hot mix surfacing to track and return road, whilst the dip is to be reshaped and a new chicane developed on the hill. **This two-day event will be the only historic event in Australia to be staged entirely in 1950s and 60s period dress.**

Contacts for registrations of interest:

To be eligible your car must be from an era pre-1980.

**Grant Campbell** : [grant@thecampbells.com.au](mailto:grant@thecampbells.com.au)

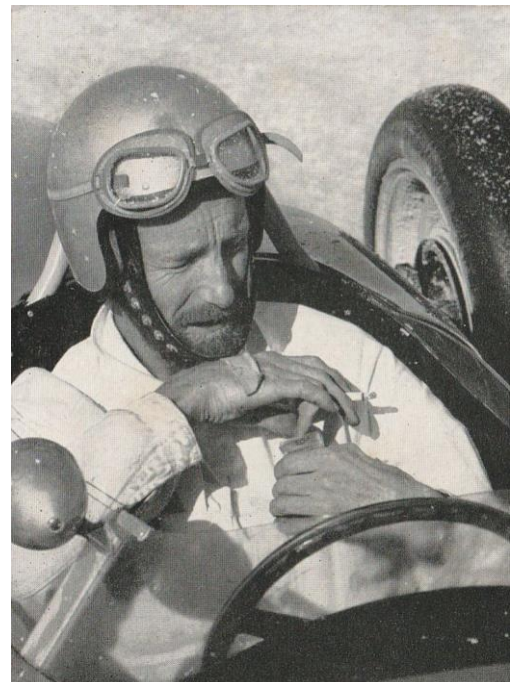
**Richard Williams** : [teamwill@optusnet.com.au](mailto:teamwill@optusnet.com.au)



### AND SPEAKING OF EVENTS:



Bluebird Proteus CN7 and Elfin Catalina Ford at Lake Eyre in 1963.



Andrew Mustard aboard the Elfin on the salt.  
(note Catalina's rear drum brakes)



# ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW? - THE FORMULA JUNIORS / CATALINAS

SP1 - Prototype	Sept 1961	First owner GRANTON HARRISON/ANDY BROWN	
		Currently MARK POOLE	
612	Nov 1961	First owner ALAN FERGUSON	Currently PETE SHAW (ACT)
621	Jan 1962	First owner ROY MORRIS	Currently BILL HEMMING (VIC)
623	March 1962	First owner JOHN MCDONALD	Currently IAN BARKER (VIC)
624	Jan 1962	First owner JIM DESIRA	Currently NOEL WOODFORD (NZ)
625	Aug 1962	First owner ELFIN SPORTS CARS (driven by Frank Matich)	Currently DOUG ANDERSON (NSW)
626	August 1962	First owner VERN WHITE	Currently JOHN MEDLEY (NSW)
627	Aug 1962	First owner GRANTON HARRISON (driven by Frank Matich)	Currently CHARLIE MITCHELL (WA)
628	Oct 1962	First owner GRAHAM LEWIS	Currently RICHARD NITSCHKE (SA)
629	Oct 1962	First owner RON TONKIN	Currently DAVID WATKINS (WA)
6214	Nov 1962	First owner TOM EDGAR	Currently ???????
6310	Jan 1963	First owner SCUDERIA VELOCE	Currently NATIONAL MOTOR RACING MUSEUM (NSW)
6312	Feb 1963	First owner JACK HUNNAM	Currently LYN ARCHER ESTATE (TAS)
6313	Mar 1963	First owner DUNLOP (Lake Eyre Test Car)	Currently DEAN RAINSFORD (SA)
6315	?? 1963	First owner JACK HUNNAM	Currently TODD MILLER (VIC)
6316	?? 1963	First owner JACK HUNNAM	Currently PETER WHELAN (SA)
6317	Nov 1963	First owner KEITH RILESTONE	Currently GRANT PATULLO (VIC)
6418	July 1964	First owner JIM MCGUIRE	Currently MAX MCPHERSON (VIC)
6319	62/63	First owner VERN CERCHE	Currently BRUCE EDGAR (WA)
6320	June 1961	First owner NOEL HURD	Currently PETER JOHNSON (NSW)

*(Please let us know of any updates to this information...)*



## ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.

### MEMBERSHIP:

We wish to introduce our newest members, and wish them many years of enjoyment with the EODC.

#### **No 689 - RICK SCOTT (VIC)**

Rick was famous in the late 60's and 70's working on BMC competition cars for Evan Green, Peter Manton, James Smith and others. His company SCOTTUNE was synonymous with winning Minis.

#### **No 690 - JAMES SCOTT (VIC)**

James helps his dad Rick and hillclimbs a Nota Fang and other cars.

#### **No 691 - FRANK ARRONIS (NSW)**

Frank is already an enthusiastic Elfin owner with his Repco Brabham engine 600, a spare 600B Twin Cam and a Clubman. You can't have too many!

#### **No 692 - STEVE PATERSON (TAS)**

Steve is a motorsport enthusiast and a friend of **GRANT TWINING** and **NOEL CLARK**. (We wouldn't hold that against him!) His family owns an Alfa Syder. Perhaps we can convince them to buy an Elfin?

#### **No 693 - BRETT LOGAN (QLD)**

Brett's metallic grey 2007 MS8 clubman is the perfect vehicle to cruise the streets of the Gold Coast. The car has competition modification options so don't be surprised if you see it on a track at some stage in the future.

#### **No 694 - JEFF SORENSON (NSW)**

Jeff is the proud owner of a black 1976 620B FF. The car is well known as the Elfin driven by Jeff Summers to win the 1982 FF Australian Championship. The car was previously owned by EODC member **BRIAN SMALL**.

#### **No 695 - RICHARD MILLS (NSW)**

Richard is the new owner and driver of **RICHARD SVIDERSKAS'** 1973 622 Category Q Elfin. Painted red with a white tail it is bound to go fast.

#### **No 696 - ABBY WINGETT (VIC)**

Abby is currently driving **BILL HEMMING's** clubman following success in other marques. She is an enthusiastic driver and very keen to improve her skills. Go up and have a chat at any race meeting. She'd love it. Welcome Abby!

#### **No 697 - JACOB WINGETT (VIC)**

Jacob is building up a few racing saloons to join his sister on the track. Jacob, Abby and their dad Steve are all working at REPCO and have been instrumental in maintaining REPCO's support of Historic Racing.



**VALE:**

*A number of Elfin champions and long time EODC members have left us over the last two years. We salute them and thank them for their passionate contribution to the history of the Elfin story.*

**PETER LARNER:**

**PETER's** first drive of an Elfin occurred in 1969 in the ex-**PHIL MOORE** Elfin 300, before following it up in the Clisby V6. In 1974 he purchased the ex-Perkins Elfin 600, built an engine and following an enormous amount of testing at Calder, won the Stillwell - Davison Cup . He ordered the first Formula Ford 620B in 1975, added the engine, and was delighted when the car was immediately one full second faster in testing than the 600. The handling was superb. His favourite car, the Elfin 700, was created over a cup of tea with **GARRIE** at Calder. He narrowly missed winning the AF2 Australian Championship in 1976, and went one step further in 1977. Peter and the 700 also won the 1978 Rothman Series at Amaroo Park. A great many Australian Champions have been powered by Peter's work, early in their careers and many Elfins cared for during his lifetime of engine building and maintenance His cheerful, enthusiastic manner will be missed around the circuits.

**PHIL MOORE:**

The man regarded by many, including Elfin founder **GARRIE COOPER**, as a natural behind the wheel died in Adelaide in 2021. A popular competitor from Adelaide, **MOORE** first came to prominence in an Elfin 300C Ford sporty, in which he was second in the 1970 ASCC, having only been involved in racing for a short time and winning four rounds over the course of that season. He really showed his talent in the more demanding 2.5-litre Repco V8 powered Elfin 360 from 1971-1973. Moore and **HENRY MICHELL**, with whom he lived, became known as the 'Elfin 360 Repco twins' after the latter talked him into attaining that car. Moore finished third in 1972 and took out the Australian Sports Car Championship in 1973 Michell would win the ASCC in 1974 in the same model of vehicle, while Moore claimed third in the Australian Drivers' Championship that year for Ansett Team Elfin, driving the ME5.

Phil Moore was instantly recognisable in latter years by his beaming smile, twinkling eyes and friendly manner. He will be sadly missed around the race tracks and especially at EODC events.

**JEFF GRANSDEN:**

**JEFF** had a garage in Conmurra Ave. just three doors from the Elfin factory and was a great friend of **GARRIE** and **CLIFF**. He owned and raced Elfins for many years including the clubman of **ROSS WILLIAMS** and the formula junior of Mark Poole. With assistance from **FULVIO MATTIOLI** he also built seven Elfin Clubman replicas. Jeff built Ford V8 specials, with some body work by Elfin, the most successful being the ex Jim Russell red car. He restored and maintained some of **JOHN BLANDEN's** cars including the Bond/Hamilton No.2 car and the Shelby Cobra. Jeff was still running in Regularities into his 90s and was involved in the EODC until shortly before his passing. A wonderful innings of 98.



# ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC.

## VALE:

### STAN KEEN (member 89)

Stan started his very successful association with Elfin with a Mono, then a Ford V8 engined 600 and eventually a MR5.



### ALAN NEWTON

Longtime member #97, **ALAN NEWTON**, previous owner and driver of the ex- Matich Traco Olds 400 and MS7 has recently left us.

It was remarkable that Alan lived through one of the most spectacular accidents when the MS7 flew through the air at Calder.



*Alan Newton, Elfin MS7, turn 2 Sandown. Photo by Darren House.*

### JOHN ANDERSON

Many will remember John as the custodian of one of GARRIE's earliest cars - the beautiful Cooper Butler.

### NEIL ALLEN

At the time of going to press, we were saddened to learn that Neil Allen passed away in Sydney after a long illness.

Neil made his mark with the ex- Frank Matich Elfin 400 which he fitted with a Chev V8. He was one of the few drivers who could often beat Matich and he won the 1970 Sports Car Championship in the brutish ME5.



# ELFIN OWNERS AND DRIVERS CLUB INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Name** (PLEASE PRINT) .....

**Address**.....

**Postcode**..... **Mobile No** .....

**Email**.....

I am an owner/ex-owner/entrant/driver/mechanic/enthusiast of Elfin cars. (Please circle)

**CAR**..... **YEAR OF MANUFACTURE**.....

**CATEGORY**..... **ENGINE/CAPACITY**.....

**CHASSIS NO**..... **COLOUR**.....

Any other significant mechanical details?

### - HISTORY OF CAR -

**EVENTS CONTESTED** (include results and dates)

**PREVIOUS OWNERS** (and years)

◆◆◆ Please include a photograph of your car ◆◆◆

**I wish to become a member of the Elfin Owners and Drivers Club, and**

**have enclosed a cheque for \$25 - membership fee** (no cash please).

**have paid my membership via direct credit -**

Bank A/C No. 5003785 BSB 633-000 (Bendigo & Adelaide Bank)

**Signed** .....

Please return to

Phil Carter  
26 Bath St  
Glenelg South  
Adelaide SA 5045

or email [carterracing@optusnet.com.au](mailto:carterracing@optusnet.com.au)

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**Adelaide SA 5045**

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