

## IN THE CLUB

### CHEAPER REGO AND OTHER BENEFITS FLOW TO MEMBERS

IT may surprise you to know that about 50 per cent of classic car owners do not belong to a classic car club, yet the benefits of membership can be significant.

It is not as if the annual fees are high and usually range between \$35 and \$50 per annum.

For that you get access to all of the knowledge and experience of like-minded club members, a magazine (usually monthly or bimonthly) and priority access to rare parts and cars coming up for sale.

And the social side of the club activities ought not be forgotten either.

Another benefit is the opportunity to register your classic car at significantly reduced rates. Historic registration or Club permits (depending on your state) limit the use of the car for every day

driving, with some states confining outings to specific club outings.

Luke Wretham, of the Triumph Car Club of Victoria, is someone who joined a club without really knowing the benefits.

That changed very quickly and now he advocates for membership at every opportunity.

“I bought a 1969 Triumph 2000 Mk1 a couple of years ago, he explains. “I joined the club just before I purchased the car. Wanting to get the gearbox working, I found that purchasing a second car for parts was around the same price as professional servicing of the gearbox alone. So I decided to purchase the second car and have a go myself.”

At that point Luke knew he needed help, as he was a novice in the mechanical knowledge department. “I

explained the issues to a couple of guys at the club and they said they would teach me what to do and help and guide me through the process,” he says.

“They came over on a number of weekends and taught me as we went along. By the end of it we had transplanted both the engine and the gearbox from the parts car and I had received a wealth of mechanical knowledge. What they also did was explain the function of each part, which has helped me appreciate what to do next and how to better look after the car.”

The club also helped with sourcing parts. “I would have never found them on my own or at the prices available through the Club’s network,” Luke says.

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