

The Sunbeam Car Owners Club of South Australia



The Sunbeam Car Owners' Club of South Australia Inc was formed in February 1974 after several owners of Sunbeam Alpines began leaving notes on the windscreen of Sunbeam cars that they saw around Adelaide asking if the owners would like to join them on outings with the cars. Officially incorporated in 1987, the club today has 89 members with some 55 Sunbeam cars between them and the club holds records on over 220 Sunbeam cars that have been owned by members over the years. Club meetings are held once a month at the Combined Car Clubs Clubroom and we try to plan an outing of some type each month, varied between driving days, visiting historical or cultural sites, or having a meal together. Four of the outings each year are combined events with our sister clubs of the Rootes Group; Hillman, Humber and Singer. The emphasis is on enjoying the cars rather than competitive driving. Club members often help each other to solve problems with the cars, find parts, or help with repairs and upgrades.

Of our 89 South Australian club members, 41 are women, with six women owning a Sunbeam of their own. Membership of the Sunbeam Car Owners' Club of SA specifically includes both partners in a relationship, providing full voting rights and membership to both people. The club encourages all members to take a role in the club and ensures that everyone is welcome, respected, and included in planning and running club events.

The Cars owned by our members range from 1920s Sunbeam Tourers, through the Talbot models of the 1940s and 50s, the popular Alpines and Tigers that make up much of the members' fleet, with a small number of Rapiers, and one each of the very rare models of Harrington Alpine and Venezia.

Club communication is mainly via a monthly colour newsletter containing notification of upcoming events and meetings, photos and accounts of past events, and technical articles on maintaining and improving the cars. We also maintain a website with an archive of past newsletters and online resources for members (www.sunbeamcarclubsa.org.au).

The Club maintains sufficient funds to run key events each year and has a 6m x 3m shed full of used Sunbeam parts that are available to members at modest prices. There is a small library of workshop and parts manuals, marque books, plus a selection of Rootes Group promotional movies that members may borrow. We take it in turns with Victoria, NSW and Queensland to host a National Meet every year that attracts between 70 and 80 people and about 40 Sunbeam cars, with people also coming from WA and New Zealand for the event.

If you have a Sunbeam car or an interest in the marque, please come along to the Combined Car Clubs Clubroom, Clark Avenue, Glandore on the third Thursday of the month* at 7:30pm.

(*except January)