

## President's Report

Since our last newsletter (actually our first newsletter!) our membership has expanded, (even internationally!). See our West Coast US correspondent, Kent Moore's article about the R Gruppe Monterey meet later in this issue.

Our TYP901 members have managed to get together for many drives and social occasions throughout our first year, with the cars as the focal point. And it hasn't just been the guys' only hooning around. Many families have joined in the fun and my wife is growing a bit too accustomed to taking my 911E on our runs together as I drive the LHD '71T. The kids are also enjoying the drives and staying in touch with their other "early 901'ers". In fact, they now have their own "Early Bumpers" chat group on Yahoo to swap stories and photos.

There has been a steady growth in members with many more people joining us on the Yahoo chat site seeking information and wanting to become an early 911 owner and to enjoy that experience. And as many are finding, the hunt for that early P-car is a significant part of this experience as well as a critical one, because doing your homework now can save many heartaches (and dollars) down the track. The Yahoo group has been an invaluable resource with many experienced members posting knowledge gained over many years of Porsche involvement and ownership.

I plan to start a series of articles in coming Newsletters on the subject of buying and owning a LHD early 911 as compared to a RHD car - with the pros and cons all discussed based upon my current experience with my 911E (RHD) and 911T (LHD). I may also consider adding in the experiences gained from a total transformation (and restoration) of a 1966 911 into a 911R clone. With the shortage of reasonable cars on the Aussie market, I think looking at good LHD cars is a real option. Just ask Clyde Boyer who recently acquired an excellent example of a LHD 71 T with only 40,000+ miles on it. We all can't wait to see that car once it arrives here.

We have members experiencing early 911 ownership in a variety of ways from racing and rallying to concours restoration, collecting them or just plain driving them every day! The aim of the TYP901 register is to cater to everyone no matter what area of interest they are pursuing with their cars.

You will have seen our front cover by now and be aware that we have inducted Alan and Lorna Hamilton as Life Members of the Register and No. 1 ticket holders in recognition of the contribution their family has made to the early years of Porsche in Australia and in particular to Alan's early 911 racing achievements. We were very

pleased to host them for a recent lunch with a large group of members at Fergusson winery. We hope to see a lot more of the Hamilton family members at future TYP901 events.

The larger this group grows and the more we gather and talk about our early cars, especially after hearing some of Alan's early Porsche stories at that recent lunch, it became obvious to a few of us that there is a significant amount of Porsche history in Australia that has been left largely undocumented. With this in mind, the committee has discussed the idea of creating a book to detail the history in Australia of the TYP901 cars from 1963 to 1973. This book is to be a project for the whole Register and we invite interested parties to make contact with us if they have any material (including photos, old articles, race memorabilia, sales brochures, etc) which relates to the early 911 and 912 in Australia, so that it may be catalogued and considered for inclusion.

Some of you may have seen the recently published book on the history of VW in Australia. This is a very well researched book with many beautiful photos and stories about VW's connection with Australia. Our aim is to create something similar but to include other areas such as racing, lists of Chassis and Engine numbers for officially (and unofficially) imported 911's and 912's into Australia, the early dealers and characters, etc, etc. We want to document the people, cars and places all related to these formative years of the Porsche marque in Australia, especially as this was such an exciting time for Porsche in Europe with their racing successes and development of the 911.

You will hear more about this project via our Yahoo group where more information and resources will be available to download should you wish to get involved and help unearth the stories and pictures we know are out there, too often only locked into peoples memories and in need of being recorded, before they get lost forever.

This is certainly an ambitious project which no doubt will span several years, but we feel it's another way for members to get involved with our club and to make a significant contribution to something you will all be proud to have been a part of. Look forward to hearing more on the Web and ensuing newsletters.

Safe motoring,

Phil Lack

President

Australian TYP901 Register Inc.