

2 006 has not been one of my best years. A series of health problems on top of my ongoing problem saw me spending far more time than usual in bed and extreme lack of energy didn't allow me to spend hours in my garage like I

have in the past. And even driving my old cars has become less frequent. If you have been reading my writings over the years you will have noticed, I am sure, less hands on paragraphs about restoration or driving this year.

Lately I have been able to spend a little time in the garage and have done some finishing touches to the 172 and also restoring the latest additions to my Peugeot coffee grinder collection.

Paul Watson stepped in when I was not even able to use the computer and kept the Worm Review going. Thanks Paul. Hank Verwoert ran the Worm Weekend and Wander again this year. Hank has done a great job. When I had to retire from organising the week ends it was a big relief to me that someone as capable and enthusiastic put their hand up to take over.

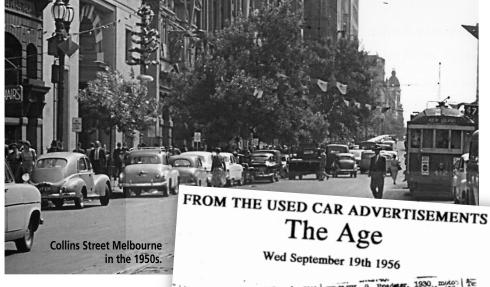
Finally you can all wish me happy birthday. My odometer clicked over 75 years last month.

More serendipity

OVER the many years that the restoration of my 172 Peugeot has taken there have been many items to think ahead about and problems to solve. Now that the restoration is finished it suddenly dawned on me that I had never given any thought about a jack. Within 24 hours of being struck by that thought I was talking to a friend who drives a veteran car and mentioned my need for a jack. "Call around," he said, "I have a collection of vintage and veteran jacks that I am taking to the Bendigo Swap meet." I called around and found a nice period jack for the 172.

Safety

ALWAYS remove the earth cable from the battery before doing any electrical work on your car. It is reported that a hand was almost lost when a metal watchband touched the regulator battery terminal and earth. The wrist now has a permanent Twist-O-Flex image burned in.



203s for sale

THE story of how this page of advertisements turned up is interesting, with a twist at the end. In 1956 I was thinking of getting married and as part of the plan to save money I decided to stop ski-mg. So I stuffed my leather ski boots with newspaper and hung them up in my father's garage. After Pam and I were married and settled into our own home my father slowly brought all the junk I had left behind over to our house, but he missed the boots. 15 to 20 years later he found the boots and presented them to me. My youngest son (about 10 at the time) was fascinated by the screwed up newspaper and spent hours unscrewing it and flattening it out. The twist to the story is that when our youngest son left

home many years later he left a lot of junk behind. Pam was cleaning out a cupboard in his old room and found the newspapers in a plastic bag, showed it to me, and I discovered the Peugeot advertisements.

Prices are in pounds, 500 pounds was about 6 months average wages.

The 'steal' is the 1930 Riley 9 for £50.

403 ute at the 2006 Worm Weekend

Paul Watson

THE annual Worm Weekend, held at Shepparton, Victoria, in late October, brought another 403 ute out of the woodwork. The blue ute was owned by Barry and Shirley Ingles, who had it waiting on a trailer behind their Ford Mainline ute when the Worm



Weekenders arrived at Princess Park for the photo shoot on the Sunday morning. Shirley's father, Alec Ferguson, had acquired the ute from the original owner, Norm Peace of Katunga, in the late 1960s and Barry took it over on Alec's death in 1972. Barry said it did him good service until the late 1980s, when he parked it in a hay shed. There it stood until Barry read about the Worm Weekend in the local paper. It was pretty sad to look at, but the inevitable rust behind the cab did not seem to have gone too far.

There were twelve 403s in the lineup for the photo shoot, making the 403 the most prevalent model at the Worm Weekend (the first time this has happened). And there would have been





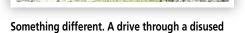
The worm line up at the Worm Weekend.

Phil Ward's 203.

another 403 if Brian Jubb's beautiful grey station wagon had not encountered clutch trouble and returned to Sydney. 403 utes are rare beasts these days, so

403 utes are rare beasts these days, so there were plenty of people interested in having a look.

But the person who actually came up with the money was Basil Moran of Casterton, who might have been trying to make up for the fact that he arrived at the Worm Weekend in a non-Worm 504. On agreeing to buy the ute, Basil was heard to say: "Opportunity knocks." His wife Pat was not nearly as enthusiastic about the purchase and what she said cannot be repeated here. But Basil has an excellent example to follow in the form of the immaculately restored blue ute of Bob and Helen Taylor of Bombaderry, near Nowra, NSW, which attracted such interest at the 2004 and 2005 Worm Weekends at Albury and Narooma.



railway tunnel near Yea

KE8-701

No, I don't need a lion on my bonnet like the 203 has. RONG RANGY RAN

PCCV web site

A series of photos tracing the restoration of my 172 and my 404 cabriolet are now up on the PCCV web site. www.pccv.org/ngallery will take you to the gallery. Look in the Restoration Projects folder.

203 differential

KORA Lisett's 203 was restored over many years. He drove it down from Brisbane to the 2005 Worm Weekend at Narooma. On the way home he was concerned at the noise from the differential and finished the trip home on the back of a truck. A strip down of the differential showed rusted bearings. The differential had been rebuilt some years ago waiting for the restoration of the rest of the 203 to be finished. The opinion is that the bearings rusted due to condensation while the differential was sitting on the shelf.