

With the George Green Rally coming up in a few months and it being 100 years since George's birth it brings to mind one of his favorite veteran cars. This is the 1913 Crossley Shelsley now owned since 1982 by Austin and Judy Grellman. The two archive shots here taken by early club member Ron Heine on his 3.5 x 2.25 Speedgraphic camera capture the start of the 1957 veteran run to the Blue Mountains. The start was somewhere near Taveners Hill on Parramatta Road. Driving the car is John Andrew and his wife Wendy. The world wide Crossley register records only three of these Shelsley models surviving, this being the only one in Australia. Having seen this car in the past many times in George's garage in the early 70's I recently had the pleasure of meeting Austin and Judy Grellman and having a good look at the car together with a brief run in it.



According to Austin the car was brought to Australia after the first world war when an Australian serviceman from the Cootamundra area had seen it in an early motor sport event and determined to buy it and bring it back to Australia. It is believed to have come to Australia with rudimentary bodywork and the tail with the spare wheel laid flat, shown in the archive shot, was fitted after its arrival. The scuttle, bonnet and wings are believed to be original. By the 1930's the car was owned by Mr. Hulford of Cootamundra and was in regular use. The car passed to Hulford's sons who kept it until the

1950s. In 1956 the car was acquired by John Andrew and participated in many VCC and VSCC events of the time. George Green then acquired the car, possibly in the late 50's and set about bringing it up to his usual high quality. George commissioned the construction of the rear bodywork in which timber planking was used as a deck top to the elegant boat tail. The car is beautifully proportioned and detailed. Storage space is found within this tail. The current photos show Austin sitting in the car which is



The Shelsley model, so named after the Make's win at the Shelsley Walsh hillclimb in 1913 with Bianchi driving, epitomized the early development of the English Sports Car. The model was technically know as the 15hp and has a 2613cc 4 cylinder side valve monobloc fixed head engine. It produces around 30bhp. The car has a spritely performance and the owners have covered many thousands of miles in it with complete reliability.

