

LEYLAND P76 CLASSIC CAR CLUB INC.

Hunter Valley Branch

Issue 1

Gordon Murray's story about his P76

May 1974 I purchased my first P76, the car was a Deluxe V8 column change with the luxury pack, the colour been Corinthian blue that I still have today. The purchased price \$3400 ? The Dealer I purchased this car from was Sharpes Garage at Cessnock. On looking at all the colour range I selected the orange P76 with a black vinal roof. The dealer could not acquire a vehicle of this nature and informed me that there was a Deluxe V8 column change at Kempsey, or was it Taree, but it was Corinthian blue fitted with a luxury pack for another \$110. After a bit of haggelling he wiped the \$110 off the price. The deal was done and he had the car shipped down to Cessnock. Three days later I picked the car up. During this period of selling the Leyland P76 Sharpes Garage were giving away a free lawn mower with every P76 sold. On picking up the car I went over it with the Dealer to check everything and when he opened the boot there it was (not a 44 gallon (205litre) drum) but a large cardboard box with a brand new Victa Utility lawn mower in it. For the first 12 months I had much less faults with the mower then I did with the car, but in the long run the P76 came out on top).

Since I purchased this vehicle I have gave it a complete makeover by changing the colour to a Nissan red, nearly all of the deluxe fittings have been removed and replaced and this car now resembles a super model. Also the manual gear box was replaced and a Borgwarner 35 box fitted.

In the first 12 months of owning this vehicle I had it back to the dealer with minor faults mainly water leaks through the front and back windscreens and also the front doors. All these faults were rectified over time and new raised foot plates fitted. The car developed a small miss in the motor and was taken back to the dealer to investigate what the miss was, after checking the spark plugs, points, condenser and carby etc, they discovered that the valley cover gasket was leaking and sucking in air, this was replaced by a thicker gasket and this vehicle went like a charm, all these faults were rectified while the car was still under warranty. All up I think I have owned 7 P76s, the second one that I acquired was a super V8 auto that was a write off, another two were full of rust and I scrapped them (kept most usable parts). The other three were all V8s that I sold (wishing now that I would have kept them) but where do you store them.

Another club member story needed

Gordon Murray



Gordon with his P76



Sharpes Leyland where Gordon purchased his P76

Free! **LAWN MOWER**
with every
LEYLAND P76 sold during May
Plus **BONUS TRADE-INS** on P76 Car of The Year
SAVE \$ \$'s PLUS A LAWN MOWER!!
CALL IN NOW AT ...
SHARPES Leyland  **AT THE SOUTH END OF TOWN — PHONE 902344**

— THE ADVERTISER, THURS., MAY 2, 1974

Next Club Run will be on **Saturday 8th May** starting from the Mulbring Park and travelling via Ellalong Millfield Mt View Cessnock Airport and Aberdare. Run instructions and map will be provided. We will stop for a bistro lunch at the Caladonian Hotel Aberdare. Kim Moloney will look after us there. Please advise of the numbers attending.....Hal