



JUNE 2011

# HEALEY HEARSAY

Official Publication of the

*Austin-Healey*

Club of San Diego

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**From The Editor:**

I had a couple of conversations this week that reaffirmed my position as a Healey owner. Whooooee is my third Healey. I

bought a Sprite when I was in grad school in Dallas Texas, then I owned a BN1 while I was a youth pastor in Santa Ana. When we got this one it was for my son until he got married.

I always gravitated to the first model of a series of cars, seeing that subsequent models only mess up the original concept. So, I was happy with a Bugeye but I never quite got the urge to make it original. Hence, now Whooooee has disc brakes, a 1275cc, a Datsun 5 speed, Minilites and a cutaway steering wheel.

Listening to Sandy Leon talk about the search for a starter built in the correct month and the correct washers tended to make my eyes bleed. I just don't have that kind of patience. Then talking to Chuck Sharp reminded me just how much money it costs to 'do it right.' I cannot afford to invest that kind of money, I'm just a preacher.

*Continued on page 5*

**June Meetings****Monthly Club Meeting**

June 8, 2011  
Jimmies Restaurant  
9635 Mission Gorge Rd  
Santee, CA  
6:30 PM



**HEALEY HEARSAY** is the official monthly publication of the **AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB of SAN DIEGO**. Monthly member's meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P. M. The location varies and is announced in the newsletter and on our web site: [www.sdhealey.org](http://www.sdhealey.org)

**Membership Information**

Membership in the AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB of SAN DIEGO is open to all owners of Austin & Jensen Healey's and to all others who profess an interest in the cars or the purpose of the club. Yearly dues to the AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB of SAN DIEGO are \$30 per household. Visit our web site [www.sdhealey.org](http://www.sdhealey.org) or contact our Membership Coordinator, Vice President Mike Williams [healeymike@earthlink.com](mailto:healeymike@earthlink.com) for details and an application.

**2011 AHCS D Board Members**

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**Advertising Information**

Classified Ads (Market Place) are free to members. Classifieds for items wanted or small items for sale are free to nonmembers also. Ads may be placed at any time. Submit artwork and payment to the Treasurer. Annual display ad and monthly nonmember "Car For Sale" classified ad rates are as follows:

Full Page 7" x 9"	\$100.00 per year
Half Page 4.5" x 7"	\$75.00 per year
Quarter page 2.25" x 3.5"	\$50.00 per year
Business card	\$30.00 per year

All advertising and articles for publication must be submitted to the editor no later than the 20th of each month for publication in the next month's issue. [smacktalbert@yahoo.com](mailto:smacktalbert@yahoo.com)

**Cover:** Healeys lined up at the California Healey Week gathering in Ventura, CA

Visit our web site at <http://www.sdhealey.org>





JUNE 2011



### President's Message:

Hey all you enjoyer's of the great and powerful Healey...

Cal Healey week is past, those who went seemed to have a great time especially those who partook in the wine tours. Lisa & I did not arrive until Saturday morning, with tools in hand to fix a loose wheel hub on the Snover 3000. The funny part of that story was the fact that Allie had posted a photo from the car as they were driving from her new Gucci cell/I/notebook...phone onto Facebook. That's how I knew they were, in fact, on the road heading to Santa Barbara, so I called to see how it was going !!

Well it wasn't... They were by the side of the road wondering about the funny noise coming from the back of the car!! With a few back & forth phone calls and some help from other Healey folk, the hub was tightened back up and they were on the road in short order.



I believe I can thank, Howard & Lou for the help with the rescue & Rick's understanding of what I was having him check while on the side of the road, and a bad cell phone connection. This is born from many years of racing together, many 'race truck by the side of the road' adventures. I'm working to fix it, he's running for parts, etc, etc. Good job Rick & Crew !!!

Since we had had an issue with the race car @ Fontana, and my upholstery on loan to the trim shop to finish Mark Iavelli's interior, I was unable to finish my 3000. So, we had to be contented with the Hemi car, which turned out to be a handy 'get around' vehicle for tooling around Old Town as well.

We got there in time to enjoy the car show, the girls went off to Old Town shopping etc, etc. Later, I was picked as one of the line judges for the Valve Cover races, which was way more fun than I expected. Good job, Ed Neumeyer, who brought an idea back from Australia's Healey crazies.

Craig Turner has a more in depth article to be found elsewhere in this Hearsay, next thing up British Extravaganza @ Buttonwillow Raceway Park June 4 & 5 always a fun weekend. We hope to have all three of our club's racers there, Dewey De Butts, Rick Snover and of course your's truly Le Prez. Fun car show, lots of racin, Kareoke Sat night... Hope you can make it up, it's always a fun weekend!!

The meeting is just around the corner, June 8 th 6:30 PM at everybody's favorite JIMMY'S in Santee hope you see you all there...

Cheers, Terry





## **Minutes Last Meeting: May 2011 Healey Meeting Minutes**

The May 11th meeting was held at Jimmies Restaurant 9635 Mission Gorge Rd. Santee

**27 members and guests were in attendance: Drove Healeys\*, other British~.**

Norm Brewer\*, Terry Cowan & Lisa Mandell, Mike Dolphin, Bob Humphreys, Bob & Sue Farnsworth, Gerry & Susan Kwiat, Sandy & Lilly, Mark, James Leon, Udo & Gisela Putzke\*, John & Mary Schermerhorn, Dick & Jan Schmidt, Rick Snover, Gary Stalker, Howard & Lynne Stark~, Craig & Sue Turner, Warren Voth.

**Meeting was called to order at 7.35 pm by president Terry Cowan.**

**General Discussions:** As our meetings have tended to open with a mixture of club activity update information grouped in with old and new business, the reporting of this will henceforth be covered under the above heading without the inclusion of detail content unless appropriate.

Work on getting either of Ricks cars ready for Calif. Healey Week.

Craig Turner to be the photographer of record for Calif Healey Week.

Report on John Schermerhorn's Sprite progress. Car now drivable and going thru reliability tuning. One more tech at Terrys' and it should be done.

Mention of racing events at Button Willow.

Mention of Terrys' PMO race car and Laguna Seca.

**April minutes were approved.**

**Vice President/ Membership:** Mike Williams not attending. Lynne Stark indicated that she has 57 paid family memberships which translates to approximately 80 members. There is apparently another larger count list so there is need for a reconciliation.

**Secretary:** Nothing to contribute related to the minutes.

**Treasurer:** Lynne indicated that we are solvent and will have some sizable bills covering "dues or fees" to various organizations.

**Newsletter:** Sam not in attendance.

**Activities:** We have Gary again scheduled for Saturday **May 14th at 9.00 a.m till 2.00 or -- .**

**May 18-22** is California Healey Week 2011 in Ventura Ca. The bulk of people going indicated they will be leaving Thursday 19th and for those wishing to caravan, a collection point was chosen at the Interstate 5 Camp Pendleton Rest Stop in Oceanside. Gathering time will be 10a.m.

**For other events that are upcoming, see the dedicated Activities page.**

**Regalia:** Open position.

**Museum/Greater SD Car Club Council:** Gerry indicated that a lot of events are starting up for the year. He has various flyers and this information should show up on Activities page.

**Old Business:** Motion made, seconded to send \$500 to president of Japan Austin Healey Club.

**New Business:** Motion made, seconded to send \$500 to 'Search and Rescue' efforts in Alabama. A clothes donation motion was made and seconded to send our old on hand regalia to that area also. Craig Turner indicated that his company would facilitate the shipping.

**Norm Brewer was the lucky dinner entree winner.**

**Meeting adjourned 8.35 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted

Dick Schmidt, secretary



*Continued from page 2*

So, all the cars I have owned, 5 Jaguars, 3 Healeys, and 1 MG, had to make do with what I could afford and my level of skill in fixing them. The only way I can have a sports car is to forget about making it perfect and just make it usable. I know that is heresy to all you purists, but it is the best I can do and still drive a Healey. Sorry.

I'll just fire up my mongrel and enjoy the sights, sounds, and smells of the drive. Whooooee!!

### **Future event – You may want to act now to make this possible!**

Some members of the AHCS D have asked for a weekend in Julian. A reasonable place to stay over night would be the Pine Hill Lodge near Julian. I've contacted the lodge, and a possible weekend would be November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. You need to make your own reservations, two nights minimum. This place is not very big; act now! Make sure you mention the Austin Healey Club San Diego. The room rate is \$ 138.72 per night, that's including the tax. Each cabin room has a queen bed. Their pub is open on Friday and Saturday and they have Sunday Brunch from 9 am to 2 pm and it is \$ 15.95 per person. They have a 72 hour cancellation policy. For more information about the lodge, please check [www.pinehilllodge.com](http://www.pinehilllodge.com). To make your reservation, please call Hanna @ (760) 765-1100. We will work on a tour, shopping and other activities in Julian at a later date.

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For more information on future events, please check the club web site at <http://www.sdhealey.org>

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More information on the Conclave can be found on the 2011 Conclave Web Site [www.austinhealeyconclave.com](http://www.austinhealeyconclave.com)

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## **Activities - what the future brings:**

### **JUNE AND BEYOND**

**June 15 - Mini's and More from Across the Pond.**  
El Cajon, Main & Magnolia 5 - 8 PM

**June 18 & 19**



### **Sunday, June 19, 2011 – East County Tour to Palomar Observatory**

Please join us for a scenic drive through our pictures East County, along tree lined roads to Palomar Mountain and a visit to the Observatory.

We will stop at Dudley's for a short break and on the way back from the Observatory; we will have lunch at the Lake Henshaw Café, 26439 Highway 76, Santa Ysabel.

Our tour starts at 9:00 AM sharp from the parking lot at BILSTEIN, 14102 Stowe Drive, Poway, CA 92064.

**June 27 - July 1 - Healey Rendezvous**  
at Vancouver, WA

**July 3-8 - Colorado Conclave**  
at Colorado Springs *See Page 15*

**Aug 18-21 - Historical Races at Laguna Seca**

**Sept 24 - 25 - Coronado Speed Festival**

**Oct 2 - San Diego British Car Day**

**Oct 22 - Oktoberfest**

**Dec 10 - Annual Christmas Party**



## Garage Talk

“I’d rather show the car when it’s running.” That was the response I got from Sandy Leon when I asked to interview him for a Garage Talk. I persisted and he finally said, “OK.” When I arrived the garage was open and a



perfect (well almost) '59 Bugeye sat there. Sandy came out and announced with a big smile, “It’s running.” The puzzling fuel pump

problem was finally solved. This problem has kept the car garaged pretty much since the '08 British Car Day.



Sandy has owned the car since the mid '80s and is probably the second owner.

Ever since High school when Sandy first saw a Sprite he never stopped looking for ‘his car.’ When he got it he decided to make it as near ‘showroom’ as possible and he resisted all the common upgrades that other Sprite owners fell

victim to. Meticulously, Sandy began dismantling and cataloguing every part. All bolts, nuts, screw, washer, etc. were collected in bags and logged with either photos or drawings. (Sandy is a CPA, so I guess this all makes sense.) Then, disaster. Someone broke into his house and stole the box where all these bits and parts were stored. That



precipitated a nationwide search for authentic Bugeye parts and bits.

It all came together in 1999 when Sandy entered the car in a concourse and scored 965 points and took a trophy. The wall above the window in the garage is a full trophy case of awards this car has won.

It doesn’t take long in conversation with Sandy to understand why we have not seen his car for a while. He is into everything. He sails, he skis, he snowboards, he plays flag football, he has a

powerboat that delivers his family to some fun activities, he is remodeling their house and he has two boys and a job. Everyone



needs to have a hobby, and Sandy has never found a hobby he didn’t like.



## Tech Sessions

John and Mary Schirmerhorn will tell you it takes a long time and lots of work to bring a Healey back from the dead, or near dead. None-the-less, it will happen with much persistence and the good will of good friends.

John and Mary's sprite is nearing completion. The engine is running and the upholstery is in and



now it is bits and the long 'sorting' trail. Look out British Car Day, you're gonna have to deal with the Schirmerhorns.

Meanwhile Gary Stalker is making progress on his BN1. Lights were mounted (but not hooked up) at the last tech session. Terry dropped by in Rick's car (its first road trip) and pointed out some things that needed to

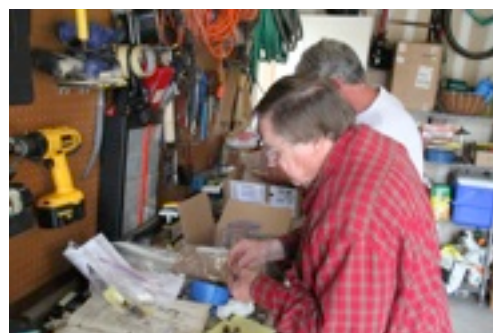


be changed. He was talking about some pieces that should have been attached even before the engine and tranny were mounted. Does that mean the engine will need to be removed

before we go any further? That's discouraging. I guess that is the difference between somebody putting a car together for the first time and someone who does it for a living. I think



Terry has seen all this before. Oh well, my philosophy is: you need to also learn some procedures that won't work to be well rounded. Dick kept up the work on the carbs. More tiny bits and more photos of how it ought to be is enough to



drive a normal man mad. However, this is not a problem for 'Superman Dick Schmidt.'

This reminds me, my friend in Santa Ana (a musician) had inherited a sprite (like John and Mary's) that looks like it has been sitting out in the weather since fido was a pup. It is not running, and it is rusted out in all the correct places to qualify it as a bona fide Healey and I encouraged him to tackle it. So now, I'll have to deliver some real help just to keep him from believing I am a demon for encouraging this project.



# CALIFORNIA HEALEY WEEK 2011

*by Craig Turner*

This was an amazing week with great drives, Moss tour, excellent Car show, Rocker Cover racing, super restaurants, and ocean view rooms. Yet again the Austin Healey Association excelled. The San Diego Club was pleased again to be a part of this event. Most club members came up on Thursday including Lou Galper and Debby, Howard and Lynne Stark (& Kali), Bob and Barbara Humphreys, Rick and Allie



Snover, and Dick and Jan Schmidt, while Craig and Sue Turner and Bob and Sue Farnsworth arrived on Wednesday, and Chick and Pat on Friday. Terry Cowan and Lisa arrived on Saturday. Bob and Sue Farnsworth deserve a medal for coming all the way up the coast road with hundreds of gear shifts. It was Kali's second Healey weekend away and she was very well behaved the whole time. Lynne and Howard had many waves from people on the journey up.

On Thursday there was a drive with beautiful scenery to the little towns of Ojai and San Paula led by Mike Scroggie. It was relaxing, serene and most enjoyable with around

17 cars doing the tour including Bob and Sue, and Craig and Sue from San Diego. In the afternoon many members attended the Jim Hall cart racing and declared it most exciting with the winner being Allan Perry from the AHA.

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings Erik's Seafood restaurant by the pier was a hit recommended by Gisela from a previous visit earlier in the year.

On Friday, Peter Roses led a drive along the coast to Moss Motors, who supplied donuts and coffee for all. One of the more interesting aspects was the room that stored original English car parts for reference purposes, rightly kept under lock and key! We also saw the prototype of a stainless steel exhaust system for Healeys being

tested on Michael Grant's Healey. Afterwards some members went Antiquing in Goleta while others decided to buy up Santa Barbara. Lynne decided to test the back seat of Rick and Allie's Healey 3000's maiden voyage to wine tasting venues. Friday evening ten of the San Diego contingent ate at the fine Capriccio restaurant on Main Street where the food was excellent despite Lou's skepticism!







Saturday morning saw many polishing rags in the parking lot of the Crowne Plaza hotel in readiness for the show. Quite a battle with the sea mist. The setting for the car show was on a lovely grass area overlooking the ocean. Many additional AHA members attended the show creating a sight to behold: Healeys everywhere as far as the eye could see, well almost! In the afternoon the hotel was the scene of the Rocker Cover racing where Ed Neumeyer assembled, with other members two very

impressive steel ramps and release mechanisms supplied by Ed at his cost. There were Sprite covers, 4 cylinder Healey covers and 6 cylinders Healey covers in a variety of configurations, varying from super light up to the maximum allowed weight. Some were rusty and some had exotic flame painted finishes. Most used hard drives for wheels but the clear winner was a 6 cylinder cover by Dennis Williams. Caught up in the moment were Bob Farnsworth and Howard Stark who bought a Sprite Rocker Cover Racer for the Club. Ed would like San Diego to compete next year. The racing was extremely interesting and exciting and added a third dimension to Healey Week. Ed was not only instrumental in bringing the



Rocker Cover Race to the USA

from Australia, he was also responsible for two other events including organizing the car show. He needs to be deeply commended for his extreme contribution to the events.

The banquet was most enjoyable with excellent food and service. The star of the night was Lynne who found a way to win six prizes, which may be a Healey Week record. Craig also won a voucher for \$800 towards a set of wire wheels. Included in the prize winners were also Bob and Sue, and Terry and Lisa. San Diego did well!

Next came the car show awards with Craig coming second in the BT7 class for the third year running, and Ed coming third in his BJ8 class.

Sunday morning we had the usual farewell breakfast before each making their way home. This was a great event and much appreciation goes to the planning committee of AHA.



JUNE 2011

## Random Photos from California Healey Week

by Bob Humphreys & Lou Galper



*Continued on page 11*





## AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB OF AMERICA

invites you to become one of our nearly 4,000 members and begin receiving the benefits of membership in the world's largest club for Austin-Healey enthusiasts:

- HEALEY MARQUE magazine, our award-winning, 40-page, colorful monthly magazine.
- AHCA Membership Directory, listing members in all 50 states, across Canada, and even many overseas.
- Austin-Healey Calendar, our colorful calendar with beautiful photography of these beautiful cars.
- 47 local chapters across the continent.
- Annual dues are still just \$40.
- Please visit our website:  
[www.healeyclub.org](http://www.healeyclub.org)



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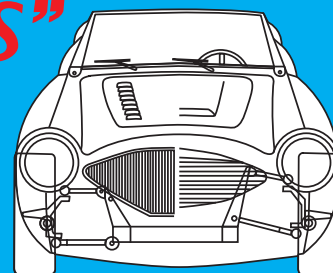




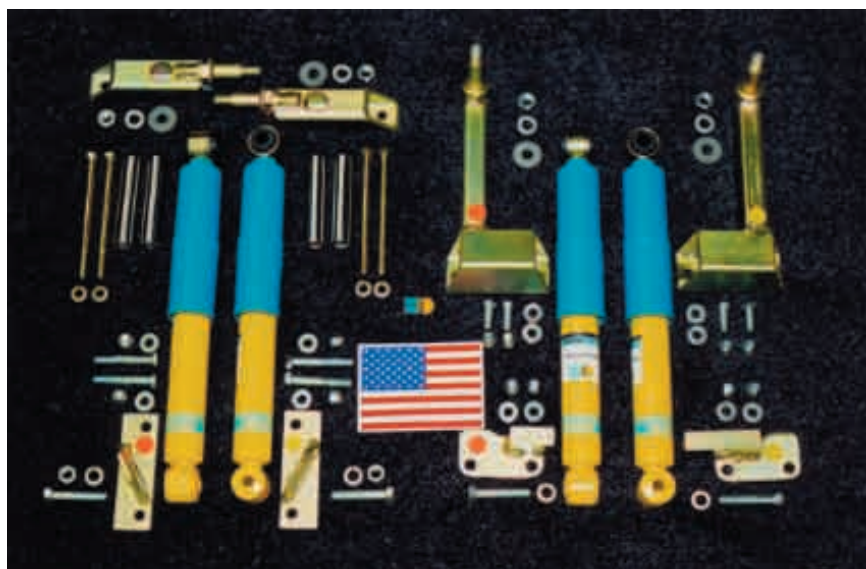
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## CAR OF THE YEAR AWARD

In an effort to recognize Club members who participate with their Healeys, the Austin Healey Club of San Diego awards Car of the Year (COTY) points for various activities. Opportunities to collect CotY points include any car-related events (shows, drives, rallies, etc.) sponsored by an official organization (other car clubs, auto museum, city chambers of

commerce, charities) where you participate with your Healey. These events may or may not be listed in the newsletter. The participant is responsible for providing proof of participation (entrance fee receipt, photo, corroboration from other club members etc.) to the CotY recorder, Gisela Putzke (858-486-3870 or [putzkes@cox.net](mailto:putzkes@cox.net)), within 30 days after the event. AHCSO events will have a sign-in sheet that will be forwarded to the recorder. For multi-Healey families, be sure to indicate which car(s) you drove.

CotY points currently approved by the Board are: AHCSO Meetings & Tech Sessions 4 pts; AHCSO driving Events, Parties etc. 6 pts; California Healey Week 16 pts; Healey Rendezvous 16 pts; Austin Healey Conclave 16 pts; S.D. British Car Day & Rolling B.C.D. 10 pts; Other non-AHCSO one day events 2 pts; Other non-AHCSO multi-day events 4pts. The Board on a case-by-case basis may award points for other events.

Talbert, Sam	AN5	58	Kirby, S+D	BT7	10
Galper, Lou	100	46	Snover, Rick	AN8	10
Putzke, U+G	BT7	44	Turner, Candice	AN5	6
Stark, H+Lynne	100-6	44	Sharp, Chuck	BJ8	6
Humphreys, B+B	Jensen	34	Schermerhorn, J+M	AN7	4
Voth, Warren	BJ8	30	Stalker, Gary	100	4
Newmeyer, E+A	BJ-gr8	28	Stark, H & Lynne	Jag	4
Snover, Rick & Allie	BT7	28	Pendleton, Jim	BJ8	2
Farnsworth, B+S	BT7	28	Snover, Rick	AN8	0
Williams, Mike	BT7	22	McHarris, Geo/Kathy	100	0
Turner, Craig	BT7	22	Hess, G&M	BJ8	0
Brewer, Norm	Jensen	20	Davies, R&S	100	0
Kind, Klaus	BJ8	18	Daab, G&J	?	0
Galper, Lou	Jag	15	Deringer, K&J	100	0
Humphreys, B+B	BT7	10	Coyote, David	100	0
Tabachki, N+N	100-6	10	DeButts, D.	AN5	0
Cowan, Terry	Sprite	10	Newman, Don/Cathy	BJ8	0
Shoemaker, K&K	100-6	10			



## NEW MEMBERS, BIRTHDAYS, & ANNIVERSARIES

### Happy Birthday:

Dolores McComas	06/03
Cass Cacciatore	06/13
Mary Schermerhorn	06/14
Steven Hart	06/24
Philip Yanni	06/26
Chic Linde	06/28

### Happy Anniversary:

Goerge & Alice Hurley	06/06/69
Chuck & Debby Sharp	06/18/77
John & Heidi Farkash	06/24/84
Howard & Lynne Stark	06/25/78
Roland & Loreen Wilhelmy	06/26/65
Jim & Libby Pendleton	06/26/66
Steve & Diane Kirby	06/29/68

### *Meals on Wheels English*

#### *Motors at Fairbrook*

The dates are September 17th and 18th 2011. The location is Fairbrook Farm in Fallbrook California. There will be a car tour on the 17th with stops at a few wonderful San Diego car collections and a dinner at Harrah's Casino. On the 18th there will be a judged car show on the beautiful Fairbrook Farm show field.

All the proceeds will benefit Meals on Wheels of Greater San Diego. For more information visit [www.englishmotorsatfairbrook.org](http://www.englishmotorsatfairbrook.org) or call [760 728 0101](tel:7607280101).



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## Goodbye, Mike Forrester

With sad regrets I report the passing of Mike Forrester, a recent member of AHCS, AHCA and three car clubs in his home country of Australia. Mike passed on 1 April 2011 after a short illness caused by a brain tumor. His sudden illness and passing was a shock to us all. Sue and I met Mike and Jill at Conclave North Carolina and immediately became very attached to them both. Much to our delight, they came to the US for a holiday in 2008 and stayed with us in Ramona for several days prior to attending Conclave San Diego. Those of you who were at Conclave San Diego know what a delightful couple they were and have a sense of how we miss Mike. Following is an email we received from Jill on 2 April 2011.

To all of our special friends far away,  
***Sadly my darling passed away last night (Friday 1st April.)***

Mike went into a coma at 8am on Thursday and never regained consciousness. He had lived for 22 weeks after the original diagnosis.

He fought very hard to stay for his (JILLY). He spent his last 17 days in the most wonderful nursing home. They absolutely loved him. I

joked to him that I would have to watch them. I asked people not to visit him on Friday as it was going to be our special time together. For the last 2 hours I told him that it was OK to leave because his Jilly was going to be looked after by our numerous friends. He gave a large sigh and went to sleep for the last time. Mike never had any pain in all the 22 weeks, for which I will be eternally grateful.

In the short time Mike was in the Nursing home he went on an outing in their bus, played carpet bowls and darts. We often had beer and wine with family and friends in the sunshine, in the garden, in the afternoon.

Mike had numerous friends and family visit him from overseas and Interstate during his illness. They all gained by this experience. He had a beer

with quite a few of them.

I would like to thank you all, for being a loving part of our lives and hope I can see some of you in the future.



Mike told me that he did not want a funeral, just a Private Cremation. We are having a Colorful Celebration of Mike's life in the wonderful Healey Clubrooms on the Sunday the 17th of April in Springvale for all the people who have enjoyed Mike's company.

Take care, dear friends.

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JUNE 2011

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## Monthly Club Meeting

June 8, 2011  
Jimmies Restaurant  
9635 Mission Gorge Rd  
Santee, CA  
6:30 PM