

## BROCK AND FERGUSON - AND THE AUSTIN CAR

Early in his career, the late **Peter Brock** made his name racing a (very much modified) **Austin A30**. His first race was at Winton (near Benalla). He went on to drive his "A30" to victory many times - at circuits all around Australia. Peter eventually moved up to bigger and better cars. When he placed his Austin A30 on the market, there was much interest and considerable competition to purchase such a renowned vehicle with such an impressive string of victories. However, without wishing to reflect poorly on subsequent owners/drivers, I believe that the car never again won a race! It was said to be a "peculiar car to drive" and clearly, would respond only in the hands of its maker.

When doing a bit of research into this perhaps little known aspect of motor sport history, I was rather surprised to find that the young **Herbert Austin** (later Lord Austin) **served his apprenticeship in Melbourne** at the Engineering Works of **Mephan Ferguson** (where his uncle was Works Manager). Further details of Austin's career can be found at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert\\_Austin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert_Austin)