

BACKFIRE

Volume 57 No 10 March 2024

PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219

Club meetings: 7.30pm 2nd Tues each month. Clubroom: Geelong Showgrounds, 79 Breakwater Rd East Geelong.



Backfire is the monthly newsletter of the Western District Historic Vehicle Club (Reg No A00011857H).
Member of the Federation of Victorian Veteran, Vintage & Classic Vehicle Clubs.



www.wdhvcgeelong.com



[WesternDistrictHistoricVehicleClub](https://www.facebook.com/WesternDistrictHistoricVehicleClub)



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HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE - 2023/2024

PRESIDENT	David Mitchell (Libby)	0409 099 716
VICE PRESIDENT	John Bailey (Julie Bennett)	0413 258 302
SECRETARY	Fred Harris (Sharyn) secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com	0417 306 177
TREASURER	Maurice Healy (Barbara) mbhealy@gmail.com	0419 154 923
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS		
Graeme Anderson (Veronica)	0428 484 340	Simon Anderson (Tess) 0414 482 241
Jon Breedveld (Glenda)	0417 311 441	Tony Brincat (Miriam) 0437 453 259
Col Jordan (Lyn)	0425 822 026	Ken Parry (Jenny) 0437 254 351
Gus Shea (Pam)	0400 203 151	Barb van Galen (Ray) 0408 664 537
Dallas Jones	0432 172 171 (Immediate Past President)	
RALLY CO-ORDINATOR	Ken Parry (Jenny)	0437 254 351 5275 4335
LONG DISTANCE RALLY CO-ORDINATOR	Sharyn Harris (Fred)	0417 546 089
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	John Bailey (Julie Bennett)	0413 258 302
EDITOR	Jon Breedveld (0417 311 441)	editor@wdhvcgeelong.com
WEB SITE	Damien "Gus" Giustini (Teena) (0418 587 415)	webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com
MINUTE SECRETARY	Leigh Dwyer (0468 763 054)	Em. Libby Booley
TECH NIGHTS	Peter Telfer (Gaylene)	0427 526 938
CLUBROOM & EQUIPMENT CARETAKERS	Max McKenzie 5248 2380 Syd Clifton 5243 0053	Bernie Turner 5248 5743
MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR	Barb van Galen (Ray) rbvangalen@gmail.com	0408 664 537
TINKER DAYS	Dallas Jones	0432 172 171
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Marg Hose	0402 213 908
VEHICLE COMPLIANCE OFFICERS	Gus Shea (Pam) 0400 203 151 Dallas Jones	0432 172 171
BAY CITY SWAP DIRECTOR	Fred Harris (Sharyn)	0417 306 177
BAY CITY SWAP COMMITTEE	John Bailey 0413 258 302 Rod Booley 0417 021 982	Murray Foran 5248 2553 Max McKenzie 5248 2380
CLUB MERCHANDISE SALES	David Mitchell 0409 099 716	
PRINTING OFFICER	Peter Telfer (Gaylene)	0427 526 938
CLUB PHOTO MAINTENANCE	Dallas Jones	0432 172 171
LIBRARIAN	Phil Abbott (Doreen)	0439 965 210
FEDERATION DELEGATE	David Perkins	
LADIES COMMITTEE CO-ORDINATORS	Pam Shea (Gus)	0487 696 097
RGAPS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE	vacant	
LIFE MEMBERS	Ken Batson Fred Harris Judith Matthews	Max McKenzie Trevor Schneider Max Tucker
	Ray van Galen	
CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR	Barb van Galen	
ERIC BAKER MEMORIAL AWARD	Annette Marshall	



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The President's Idle Chatter

Hi All,

February has been busy with events including another very successful Membership Renewal BBQ last Sunday. I wasn't able to attend but I'm told there was a great turn out including plenty of polished cars on display. We had almost 100 renewals so, as in previous years, it was a well-supported day.

There is no doubt that the warmer weather in February helps get people out and about and the large numbers at the Kithbrooke Park Country Club coffee run and the Portarlinton tinker day were testament to that. The people from Kithbrooke were so pleased and impressed at our car display they want us back again next year.

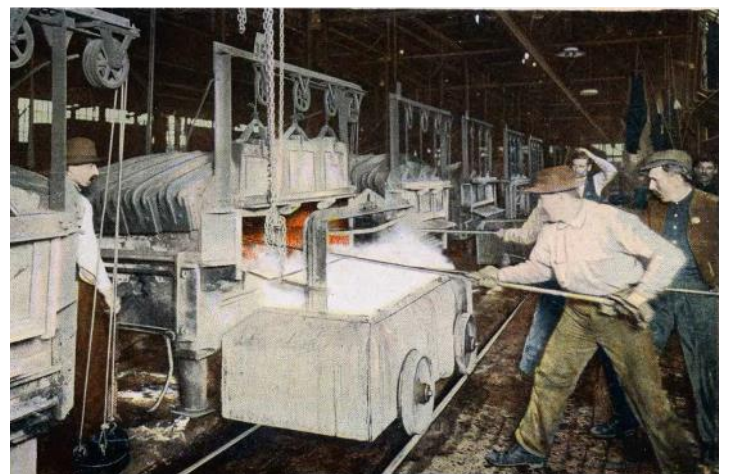
This month we have our last general meeting before the April AGM. Don't forget if you haven't done so already to renew your membership before the end of March. Also if you would like to become more involved in the club, understand more about how the club runs and have input as well, then joining the Committee is a great way to do this. We like to get some fresh ideas and new committee members (fresh talent) are certainly welcome. Nomination forms have to be in before the close of the March club night.

We will be again having a swap committee meeting prior to the March club night. It will start at 6pm in the workshop, so all those involved and any others who would like to help out, I will see

you there. We are making good progress but as usual there are still a number of jobs to be done. Murray Foran will be looking for volunteers and will be taking names at the club night so please have a chat to him to get your name down and get involved.

Stay safe and I hope to see you out and about.

David Mitchell



"Quenching steel forgings in the furnace room. Ford heat treatment gives wonderful strength to axles, steering rods, gears etc."
Postcards showing the Ford plant in 1917.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No 632 OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.
HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2024

PRESIDING

President David Mitchell opened the meeting and welcomed members and visitors to meeting No 632.

APOLOGIES

Leigh Dwyer, David Perkins, Jennie Green Lindsay Hose, Allan Tipper, Barbara Thompson, Tony and Miriam Brincat, Rod and Lorraine Roach, Tiny Stonehouse, Annetta Warren, Phil Abbott, Elaine Baldock, Jeanette Dragt, Simon and Graeme Anderson.

Moved: Ray van Galen

Seconded: Fred Dosser Carried

SICK LIST

Annetta Warren

MINUTES

The minutes of the December general meeting as published in the Backfire be confirmed as a correct record.

Moved: John Bailey

Seconded: Trevor Schneider Carried

The minutes of the January general meeting as published in the Backfire be confirmed as a correct record.

Moved: Jon Breedveld

Seconded: Max McKenzie Carried

CORRESPONDENCE (Fred)

INWARD

Letters In

- Bendigo Bank - bank statement
- Gayle Donovan - informing the club that her mother Marg Ivory is going well at 95 in Oct

Emails In

- Federation - notice of next meeting in Maryborough

OUTWARD

Letters Out

- Annetta Warren - get well card hoping she is on the improve from her recent fall

Emails Out

Nil

Moved: Fred Dosser

Seconded: Rod Booley Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT (Maurice)

Maurice presented his report on receipts and payments since the previous meeting and presented accounts to be passed for payment.

Moved: Maurice Healy

Seconded: John Bailey Carried

PROGRAM DIRECTOR (John)

Tony Featherston from Cottage by the Sea will give a talk at the March meeting

LIBRARY (Phil)

Nil

DINE OUT (Sharyn)

Wednesday 14th Feb 5.30 - 6pm at the Moorpanyal Park Northshore. BYO everything.

EDITOR (Jon)

Nil

WEBSITE (Damien)

Nil

FEDERATION REPORT (David P)

Nil

COFFEE RUN (Col)

Thursday 7 March at the Batesford Hotel

COMMITTEE REPORT (David)

Topics covered:

- Waterfront Displays
- Our golf buggy has had all the electrical problems sorted out. Thank you very much to Jack Thomas.
- We have a new Social Secretary with Marg Hose taking on the job. A big thank you to Jeanette Dragt, who has done this job for many years
- Membership renewal sausage sizzle on 25 Feb at the clubrooms.

MERCHANDISE (David M)

A new idea coming next month, and we still have hats for sale.

TINKER DAY (Dallas)

- Thursday 15 Feb Welfare St Portarlington at Mick Wrights' home to see his shed and unusual house build.
- Saturday 30 March, Bus trip to the Echuca Holden Car Museum before it closes. We need numbers for the bus to run. (NOTE: Activity changed - see Events Page 8 -Ed.)

MARS BAR AWARD (Ray)

Nil

VEHICLE PERMITS (Gus)

Nil

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd

RALLY REPORTS/EVENTS (Ken)

- Sunday 25 February, Membership renewals at the club rooms
- Sunday 3 March, Waterfront Display
- Sunday 17 March All Ford Day in Geelong.
- Sunday 24 March, Federation Picnic at Mortlake
- Thursday 25 April, Anzac Day BBQ Breakfast at Barwon Heads
- Sunday 19 May, Mystery car run

LONG DISTANCE RALLY (TBC)

Nil

TECH NIGHT (Peter)

Tuesday 27 February Topic "Steering"

SWAP MEET (David)

Saturday 11 May, progressing well.

KITCHEN (Pam)

Nil

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Some recent sales of early number plates: Q1 sold for \$5.65 million. NSW1 sold for \$11.5m
- Sunday 18 February 100 Old MG cars will be at the waterfront on display

FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

- A member has bought an F350 Truck and would like to hear from anyone with information on these trucks.
- John Bailey and Julie Bennett have bought a Chrysler Crossfire V6.
- John and Julie are also looking for a new home for their pianola, along with the rolls.

Meeting closed. 8.35pm.

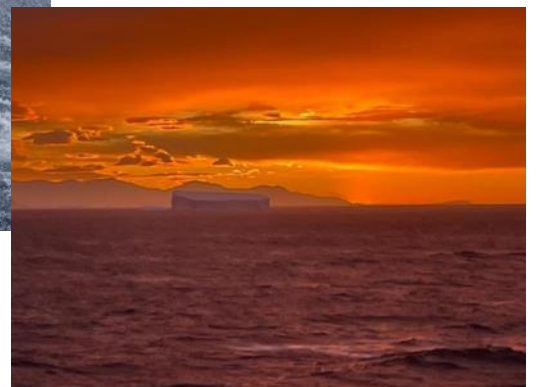
- Libby Booley

Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 12 March 2024 in the clubrooms.

A Trip to Antarctica

Sharyn Harris spoke about her and Fred's recent cruise to Antarctica at the February meeting. She screened photos of the trip to illustrate her speech.

Sharyn was struck by the beauty of the scenery and wildlife, the cold and the vast wild ocean on the trip down from Buenos Aires. While the storms in the Drake Passage kept quite a few passengers confined in their cabins, the reward upon arrival made the discomfort worthwhile.



A Trip to Antarctica (ctd)



Sharyn spent some time explaining the careful safety measures in place to protect passengers when they took to the Zodiacs and ventured onto the ice to explore. In particular, the multi-layered, brightly colored clothing needed to protect from the cold and stay safe.



The penguins and the nesting albatross were among her favourites. The wildlife had right of way – and the tourists just had to wait if a penguin waddled across their path. - Ed.

Club Legends

Max McKenzie

Our club includes people with a wealth of knowledge and experience that we wish to preserve. This is the eighth in a series about these "Club Legends".

Max was born in 1932 in Rochester. He has since found out that his parents attended the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. It was also the starting up of ABC Radio. What a great year.

He married Shirley and has two children. Sadly Shirley passed away in 2000.

His first job was at Rochester Bendigo Motor Co. in spare parts, instead of as a mechanic. This was when the first Holden came out. He went on to get an apprenticeship.

His father died when he was about two and his mother moved the family to Geelong in about 1956.

He went on to work at Heaths Motors as a mechanic, then on to the RACV for 33 years.

Max's first car was a Morris Oxford which he purchased with three friends, for 30 pounds.

The cars he should have never sold was a 1939 Ford V8 convertible which he bought for 330 pounds and sold for 168 pounds. Oops. Also a 1942 BSA and side car.

He has had a Consul, Holden and an ED Falcon.

He now owns a 1969 XW Falcon V8 which he acquired when he got a call to Fords 50 years ago as an RACV driver. He asked the owner if he wanted to sell it and then waited. Who says good things don't come to those who wait. His daily drive is a Mazda and he also owns a Dodge 1951 King-sway, a Norton Motor bike and a Honda Postie scooter.

Max's dream car is an early Mercedes convertible.

Max joined the club when it was in the Nissan huts in North Geelong and attended for two meetings, then started again at the Showgrounds.

He has attended numerous Sunday Runs and the Bay to Birdwood and also Tasmania. He loves Tinker Days and just being a part of the club.

He enjoys the friendship and has met some great people. He also enjoys Probus and is a Wednesday Warrior at the Showgrounds which led to him being made a Life Member of RGAPS.

He also became a life member of our club in 2010. He has been on the Swap committee since 1998, assistant editor and caretaker of our rooms since 2001.

He has collected the mail since 2000 and was made Clubman of the Year in 2003. He received the Eric Baker Award in 2009 and was on the Committee 2001 to 2007.

His partner during all this time is Jeanette.

The last thing Max said to me was the Club has been his life since he retired and he has enjoyed every bit of this great interest.

What a busy man and a legend.

- Sharyn




Western District Historic Vehicle Club Inc Presents

GEELONG BAY CITY SWAP MEET

Sat 11th May 2024 gates open 7am

Geelong Showgrounds (Melways Ref 452 E10)



Costs:

- *Gate entry, Adult/Teenage \$10 per person, Under 13 yr Free
- *Outdoor site, \$20 per 10x6m site + gate entry costs \$10 per person
(no booking required for outdoor sites)
- *Limited indoor sites, Bookings via email/phone
\$30 per site + gate entry costs \$10 per person
- *Area inside the grounds for cars/motorcycles For Sale or Display
(\$20 per car/bike + gate entry costs \$10 per person)
- *Parking for Non sellers at Geelong racecourse, Breakwater Rd.

*Please have correct money for site and gate entry.
* Geelong Mobile ATM Facilities on site

Friday night: Camp sites available for stallholders only.
Entry from 4pm, gates will close at 9pm sharp. (site + per person entry costs)

Rules: Strictly no animals allowed in showgrounds. No fires permitted in anyway. No unauthorised food/drink vendors. No riding of a bicycle, scooter, motorcycle or rec vehicle. No Alcohol permitted.
Mobility scooters permitted but must not exceed 4kph.

Updates: Via, Geelong Bay City Swap Facebook page

Contact: email: geelongswap@wdhvcgeelong.com
Ph: 0451 641 924
WDHVC PO Box 200 Newcomb Vic 3219

- Friday 1 March** **Backfire folding morning** 9am Clubrooms.
Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938
- Sunday 3 March** **Waterfront Display** at the pavilion lawn club car display. Enter from Cunningham Pier from 10.30am. You will be escorted to your park at walking pace. Beware of the public when doing so. I will have a yellow vest on. I will need a hand, just until we get everybody in and I will have an extra safety vest. There may be a market on as well. Either bring a picnic lunch or buy lunch in town. I hope we get a lot of cars to display for our club.
Contact: Ken 0437 254 351
- Thursday 7 March,** **Coffee Run** BATESFORD HOTEL from 10am. Hopefully everyone knows where that is! Coffee, tea etc and cakes available to purchase. There is parking out the front for the less mobile and parking out the back of the hotel for the rest. If the day is good we can be out in the beer garden beside the pub, which has tables and seats and plenty of shade: otherwise we will be inside. Bring your good humour and enjoy a chat!! Cheers - the coffee co-ordinator *Contact: Col 0425 822 026*
- Tuesday 12 March** **Swap Committee Meeting** 6pm in Clubrooms. To continue with the event planning . For those involved or anyone else wanting to help please, come along.
Contact: David 0409 099 716
- Tuesday 12 March** **General Meeting** 7.30pm in Clubrooms.
- Wednesday 13 March** **Dine Out** 6pm at Great Western Hotel.
Contact: Jenny Parry 0419 336 628
- Tuesday 19 March** **Committee Meeting** 7.30pm in clubrooms.
- Thursday 21 March** **Tinker Day** We will be heading to Portarlinton. Lorraine Collinson has invited us to come and look though late husband Barry's treasures. There will be numerous items for sale so bring your wallet and give some of Barry's items a new use and new home. As per last month, we will meet at the clubrooms around 9.30 for a 9.45am departure. Those on the Bellarine can meet us outside the Curlewis Golf Club, where we can form up at around 10am. Those living in the Portarlinton area might like to go straight there. .
Contact: Dallas 0432 172 171.
- Sunday 24 March** **Federation Picnic at Mortlake.** Leaving 8.30am from Fyansford Hotel carpark.
Contact Ken 0437 254 351
- Monday 25 March** **March Backfire Deadline 5pm.** *Contact: Jon B 0417 311 441*
- Tuesday 26 March** **Tech Night "TBC"** Arrive at 7 pm, so we can set up for a 7.30 pm start.
Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938.
- Friday 29 March** **Backfire folding morning** 9am Clubrooms.
Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938
- Thursday 4 April** **Coffee Run** We will head to the rotunda/shelter next to the Botanic Gardens in East Geelong. BYO beverages or buy one at the corner shop in Garden St. Maybe bring a comfy seat and a cake to eat!! Cheers from The Coffee Coordinator. *Contact: Col 0425 822 026*
- Thursday 18 April** **Tinker Day** We will be looking at some horse drawn buggies and associated items. The owner has been generous enough to open up his collection but enjoys his privacy and has asked that adults only attend and that no pictures to be taken and posted on social media platforms. There is not really anywhere to sit and eat, so after our visit, we will be heading to a park in Bannockburn to have our lunch.
Contact: Dallas 0432 172 171
- Thursday 25 April** **Anzac Day BBQ Breakfast** at Barwon Heads. 8.30am on the riverbank.
Contact Murray Foran 0409 841 700
- Friday 29 April** **Backfire folding morning** 9am Clubrooms.
Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938

Let Him Dig

They'd been married for years. When there was a fight, yelling could be heard deep into the night. The old man would shout: "When I die, I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life!" Neighbours feared him. The old man like the fact that he was feared.

He died and after the burial her neighbours, concerned for her safety, asked: "Aren't you afraid that he will dig his way out of the grave and haunt you for the rest of your life?"

The wife said: "Let him dig. I had him buried upside down – and I know he won't ask for directions."

(contributed by Graham Anderson)

Other Events

March 2	Ballan Swap Meet	Old Ballan Racecourse
March 10	Yarra Glen Swap Meet	Yarra Glen Racecourse
March 10	Swanpool Motor Festival	2426 Midland Hwy Swanpool
March 17	Geelong All Ford Day	Eastern Gardens All Ford Day
Mrch 17	Maldon Swap Meet	Maldon Racecourse Mark 0414 244 842
March 23	Koroit Swap Meet	Victoria Park Footy Ground Koroit. Willy 0419 547 548
April 6	Horsham Swap	Horsham Show Grounds
April 6	RutherglenSwap	Saturday: swap meet. Sunday: vehicle show day
April 7	Castlemaine Swap	Camp Reserve, Castlemaine
April 7	Motorbike Swap	Vintage Motorcycle Club, at National Steam Centre, Scoresby
April 7	Shepparton Motor Show	Rotary Motor Show, Market Day & Swap Meet, Showgrounds
April 14	Kerang Swap	Alexandrina Park
April 14	Lancefield Swap	Car & Collectables Swap
April 21	HTPAA Antique Hand Tool Market	St. Anthony's School Hall, 164 Neerim Rd, Caulfield East
April 21	Maffra Swap	Gippsland Vehicle Collection
May 11	Geelong Swap	Bay City Swap Meet, Geelong Showgrounds 0451 641 924



Yarra Glen 2024 Swap Meet

Automotive Parts & Accessories
Garagenalia - Collectibles Show & Shine
Vintage and Pre-War Cars

Sunday 10 March 2024

Yarra Glen Racecourse - Armstrong Grove, Yarra Glen Vic
Gates Open
Sellers 6:30am - Buyers 7:30am - Show n Shine 8:00am

Site Fees - from \$25
Entry - \$10 (children u12 free)

Gates Close 3:00pm
The Vintage Drivers Club
www.vintageclub.com.au

Site Booking & Enquiries - yarraglen@vdc.org.au or Iain 0473 832 277



SWANPOOL MOTOR FESTIVAL

NO EFTPDS Cash only event

SUNDAY 10TH MARCH 2024 8.00am - 3.00pm

Albert Heaney Oval - 2426 Midland Hwy, Swanpool

\$5 Entry DISPLAY VEHICLES - ENTRY \$10 (Inc. 2 adults)
Children under 16 years FREE CARS - BIKES - TRUCKS - BOATS - RACE CARS - ANYTHING WITH AN ENGINE

DISPLAY VEHICLES SHARE IN THOUSANDS OF \$\$ PRIZE POOL - INCLUDING \$500 CASH AWARD

SWAP MEET & MARKET STALLS - LIVE BAND 'RATTLE' TAKE AWAY FOOD - DRINKS - COFFEE - ICE CREAM

NO DOGS (except service dogs)

ENTRIES ONLY - Race Dates 0417 251 264 swapmotorfestival@gmail.com www.swapmotorfestival.com.au

Vacuum Truck Supplies, MARTIN'S GARAGE, High Country Parts, BENALLA MOTORCYCLES & POWER EQUIPMENT



"SAVE THE DATE 24TH MARCH 2024"

"It's on Again" Mortlake Picnic

Federation's Mortlake Picnic Celebrating 20 Years
Join us in a Special Celebration on 24th March 2024

To be held in the grounds of Tea Tree Park at Mortlake

Catering on the day by the local Lions Club, CWA and Coffee with the Girls. "Lakes and Crutens Band" will once again be in Attendance. Great Prize Pool Draw for Members

Come along and enjoy our Genuine Old Time Picnic Day in the Beautiful Gardens at Tea Tree Park. Plenty of Shade to sit back and relax under while you catch up with Friends.

Enquiries: John Kennett: Phone 0419589066



RACV 66th KALORAMA RALLY
Sunday 24th March 2024

Kalorama Memorial Reserve
Mt Dandenong Tourist Road

Featuring Vintage Cars of the Roaring 20's

• One of Melbourne's pioneering Motoring Events. Running since 1956.
• Vehicles prior to 1990 eligible for Mystery tour and display on the oval.
• Mystery Tour commencing at the Manhattan Hotel 9:00 am for a 9:30 start.
• Vintage & Post Vintage Motor Cycle Clubs Displays, Vehicle Awards.
• Display of Vintage Fire Pumps and Agricultural Machinery.
• Kalorama CFA Kiosk with a variety of food and drinks.
• Drivers under 25 in an eligible car admitted free.

Supported By RACV

General Public Welcome Opens at 10am.
Entry: \$10.00 per Person
Programs: \$2.00
Children Under 16 Free

www.vintageclub.com.au/KaloramaRally

All Proceeds to The Kalorama CFA



NARACOORTE SWAP MEET

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th May 2024

One of the largest country Swap Meets in SA. Outdoor and indoor sites of car parts, antiques, collectables, jewellery, books, crafts etc.

Trading: Saturday 7am - 5pm all sites
Sunday 7am - noon outdoor sites only
Naracoorte Showgrounds, Smith Street
Public entry \$5

NO DOGS ALLOWED

Gates open for site holders Friday 3rd May 12 noon - 9 pm
Saturday from 6:30 am. No booking for outdoor sites \$25

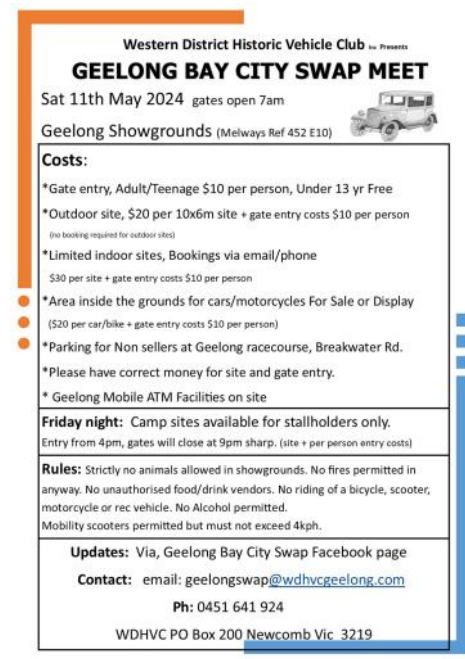
SHOW 'n' SHINE Cars and Motorcycles pre 1999

Registration 8 - 10:30 am Saturday, \$5 per vehicle. Judging 11am

Catering at venue
BBQ breakfast Saturday and Sunday

Enquiries: Ph. 0408 854 658 (4-8 pm)
Email: naracoortehvc@gmail.com

Naracoorte Historic Vehicle Club Inc.



Western District Historic Vehicle Club Inc. Presents
GEELONG BAY CITY SWAP MEET

Sat 11th May 2024 gates open 7am

Geelong Showgrounds (Melways Ref 452 E10)

Costs:

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Updates: Via, Geelong Bay City Swap Facebook page
Contact: email: geelongswap@wdhvcgeelong.com
Ph: 0451 641 924
WDHVC PO Box 200 Newcomb Vic. 3219

...they pay!



SIMCA

by CHRYSLER

The Reader's Digest, December 1962

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RALLIES & RUNS

Waterfront Display

The weather was kind and the passers-by showed a keen interest in the club cars on display at the Geelong waterfront last month.

And don't forget - there will be another chance to put your vehicle on display this Sunday 3 March, at the same location. (see details in Events on Page 8.).

Photos Jenny Parry



Membership Renewal BBQ

Warm weather, free sausages and a chance to socialise combined to make the Membership Renewal BBQ at the Clubrooms on Sunday 25 February a popular occasion.

Members took the chance to bring some lovely vehicles along, much to the admiration and enjoyment of others.

A big thank you to the hard workers who ran the renewal tables inside and the BBQ trailer by the door.

And a reminder that memberships are due by 31 March, so if you haven't paid already, time is running out! Non-financial members cannot legally operate their red plate vehicles either.



JANUARY TECH NIGHT "Brakes"

The main gate was closed, which put a handbrake on those attending the January Tech Night - but they found their way to another open gate and the night got underway. Lindsay Alford has prepared the this report on the topic discussed.



Brake drums can have leading and trailing brake shoes. This makes a difference in braking when travelling forward or reverse. It also makes a difference with the park brake. The rear brake drum has a leading and trailing shoe for an effective park brake.

On some cheap cars, the back brakes often use single-piston wheel cylinders to operate both brake shoes. The cylinder had to side on the backing plate when the brakes were applied and slide back when they were released. This does not work as well as it should and the shoe on the non-piston side still rubs against the drum. This results in this shoe wearing faster. The same happens with single-piston disc brakes. It is important to keep the disk rods greased and the wheel cylinders slide greased.



With non-asbestos brake linings black dust deposited in the wheel rim. Ford solved this problem by putting deflector plates to keep dust off the front but still deposits on the inside of the rim.

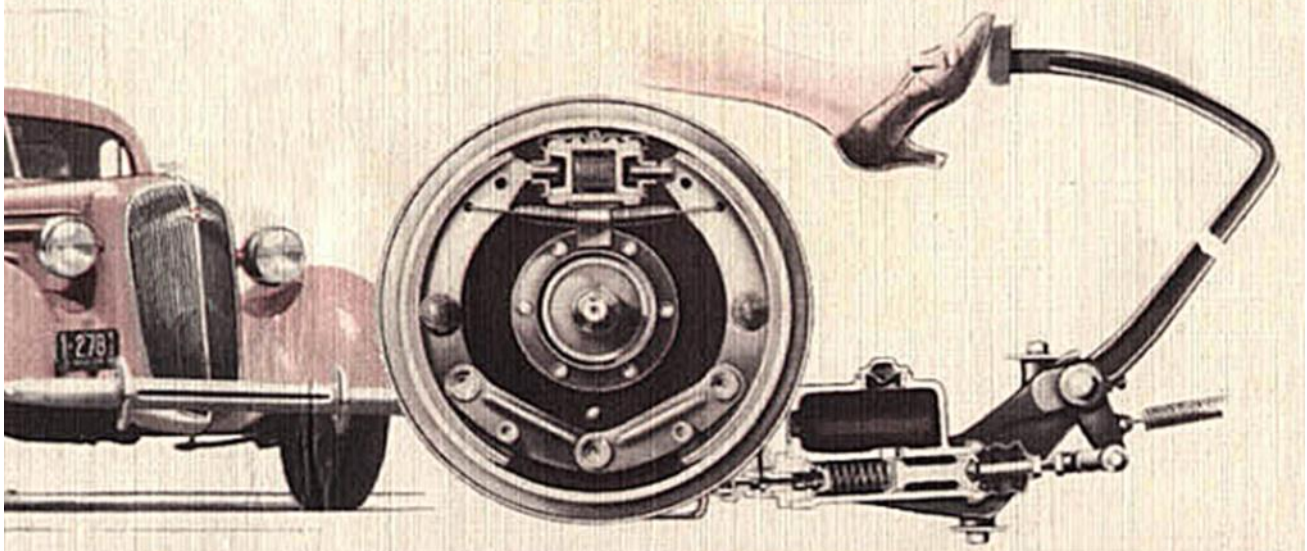
Packard tried brakes with three shoes but it did not have any great advantage and was discontinued.

- Lindsay



PERFECTED HYDRAULIC BRAKES

—which stop you quickly, smoothly and without swerving— which require little of your effort to do their work— those are the brakes which are found on all Chevrolets for 1936. They represent a contribution to safety of utmost importance. The separate hand brake system operates mechanically.



RALLIES & RUNS

Tinker Day Excitement was Barely Contained



Thursday 15 February was a perfect day for members to get together for an event. We met at the clubrooms as usual and then proceeded to Curlewis to meet up with the Bellarine contingent. Fourteen cars and three motorcycles with 28 members headed down to Portarlington to have a look at club members Mick and Yvonne Wright's place.

Certainly something different. The house is built from nine 40-foot shipping containers but they are configured in such a way that you would hardly know. The house is very modern with beautiful and bespoke features.

A far cry from living in a box, or even nine boxes!



Moving on to the garage where most of the members feel more at home, a collection of nine Ducati motorcycles and two classic cars left us in no doubt as to where Mick spends his spare time.



A big thank you to Mick and Yvonne for opening their home for us to look at.

- Dallas

Photos: Geoff Lenton



Spanning a Continent (taken from the Reader's Digest, April 1954)

A young lady wrote: "This grand road appears at a distance like an immense avenue of foliage and verdure. A charming freshness and an agreeable shade always pervades this continuous bower, the silence of which is interrupted by the singing and chirruping of the richly plumed parakeets and other birds which inhabit it ..."

The year was 1802 and the road she was describing was the 15 mile long Parramatta Road, built in 1794 from Sydney to Parramatta, and, apart from the roads within the settlements, Australia's first real road – "almost wide enough everywhere for three carriages to pass abreast".

Today, 151 years later, the Parramatta Road has a carriageway 60 feet wide and carries the heaviest traffic of any road in New South Wales.

Despite its vastness (the distance from Sydney to Perth is far greater than from London to Moscow) and its relatively small population, Australia's roads today stretch 510,514 miles throughout a total area of 2,974,581 square miles. Excluding tractors and trailers, these roads of ours carry 1,748,407 motor vehicles

Here are some figures which will be of interest:

New South Wales has a total of 127,337 miles of roads; Victoria 104,648; Queensland 134,858; South Australia 82,112; Western Australia 76,708; Tasmania 12,910; Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory 1,941.

Responsibility for road construction and maintenance is borne by a Board, Commission or State Department in each of the States. These bodies plan road systems, provide financial and technical assistance to local government bodies or themselves undertake the building and maintenance of roads.



Parramatta Road in 1938

The New Sports Coupe

FOR social, professional or business use, no car could be smarter than this new Sports Coupe—and none so well combines economy with genuine comfort and outstanding performance. The cloth upholstery is rich in appearance and particularly long-wearing. The interior appointments suggest a much more expensive car—every detail bears the imprint of quiet good taste. The driving seat is adjustable for comfortable control and seats three with room to spare. Rear curtain clips neatly into the roof, allowing conversation with passengers in rumble seat at rear. . . Ease of handling is a feature of this smart car which women appreciate. It parks in small spaces, turns easily in narrow streets and its smooth-running engine is delightful to control. Gear changing is swift and silent—but seldom necessary.

COACHWORK
FORD
AUSTRALIA

In general there are three types of roads and road surfaces: highways (concrete and bitumen), main roads (gravel, with bitumen where warranted), and secondary roads (natural earth).

An update: in 2022 Australia's total estimated paved road length was 427,000 kms. An estimated 254 billion vehicle kilometres were travelled on Australia's roads in 2022-23.

- Ed

Great Mars Bar Competition

More photos needed

Please sneak in your photo submissions to:

Ray van Galen

Ph 52789 368,

or

email rbvangalen@gmail.com



The views/comments expressed in the publication of this newsletter are those of the individual contributor and are not necessarily endorsed by the current Committee of the Club. Whilst every care is taken to determine the safety of any technical information provided and the accuracy of the information supplied for inclusion in this newsletter, it is printed in good faith and neither the Committee nor the Club accept any responsibility for any loss or injury incurred by any application of such information.

FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale



For Sale 2006 Ford Focus LS.
2.0L 100,000 Km.
Rego UNY-695 -
Oct 24. \$6,200.

Call Bernard
0428 753 638.

3/24

FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale

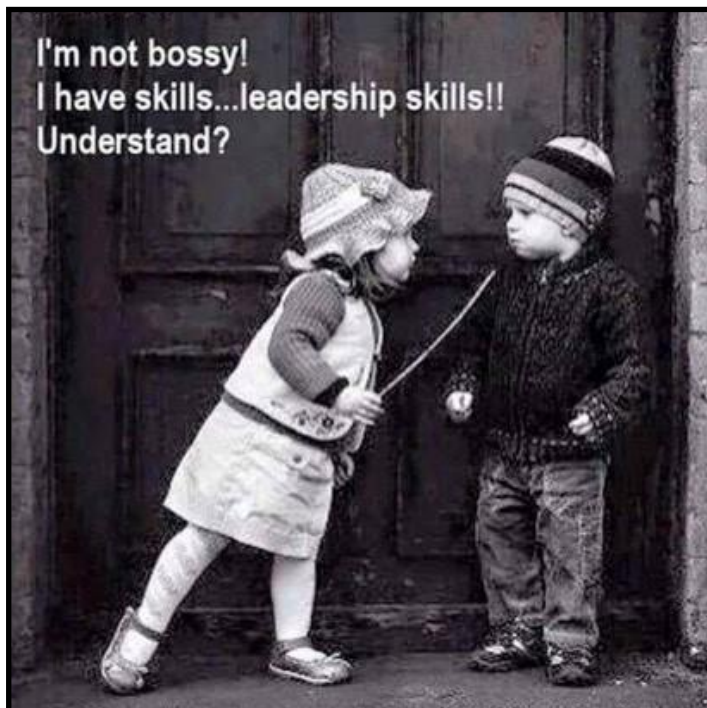
For Sale: the late Clive Shaw's 2004 Jaguar X-Type Sedan. British Racing Green. 2.1 ltr, V6, 5-speed auto, 126,747kms. Regularly serviced: recently 20/09/2023. Always garaged. Paint & interior in excellent condition. \$9,500 (ex Govt charges). Rego SVX-970 (exp: 28/04/2024). Contact daughter: Janis 0408 302 010. **1/24**



KEEP IT IN THE CLUB

Got a vehicle for sale?

Please consider advertising it in *Backfire* first, to give your fellow members the first option of buying.



The Way It Was

(taken from the 21st anniversary Backfire - March 1988)

Our Ballarat member has money to burn - paid fifty cents for a swap card with a T Ford on, and it seems he intends to set fire to it in front of a so-called friend.

July 1978

There were people lining the route all the way to Birdwood and yes, guess who took a wrong turn in the procession, much to the amusement of the crowd.

Merle Shell, November 1984

For sale/wanted ads are free to Members and generally appear for **two issues** of *Backfire*. To remove advertisements from the newsletter earlier, email editor@wdhvcgeelong.com (Ph 0417 311 441).

Reminder: All vehicles in the "For Sales" must have VIN number & Price or Registration Number & Price, otherwise they will be listed under "Clues". Ads for the 'Clues' section must not refer to any payment that may take place by mentioning an amount or 'best offer', etc.

All ads for cars also appear on the **club web site** where greater detail and photos (where supplied) can be viewed. To see ads, go to

<http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com/wdsale.html>

All ads remain on the website until you request their removal. To remove an ad from the website, email webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com (Ph 0418 587 415).

It's Your Newsletter, so Keep Contributing!

Don't forget to send me your contributions. Emailed, hand delivered, posted, by SMS or carrier pigeon! Hand written or typed. Don't leave it to the faithful few or your editor. If you are at an event, take a photo on your phone or scribble a few notes.

Send them to:

Mob. 0417 311 441 or
editor@wdhvcgeelong.com

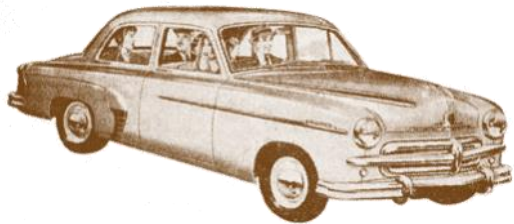
If undeliverable return to:

WDHVC
PO Box 200
Newcomb VIC 3219

Backfire

PRINT POST
APPROVED
PPN 1000/19091

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA



1953 Vauxhall Velox

March 2024 at a glance (details Page 9)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 EXTREME WEATHER (including Total Fire Bans) A club event may be cancelled on extreme weather days. If an extreme weather day is predicted members should either: check the club website; check their emails; or contact the event organiser.	26	27	28	29 February	1 March Backfire Folding Morning	2 Ballan Swap
3 Waterfront Display Cunningham Pier 10.30am	4	5	6	7 Coffee Run. 10 am Batesford Hotel	8	9
10 Yarra Glen Swap Swanpool Motor Festival	11	12 Swap C'ttee 6pm General Meeting 7.30pm	13 Dine Out Great Western 6pm	14	15	16
17 Geelong All Ford Day. Maldon Swap	18	19 Committee Meeting	20	21 Tinker Day- Portarlinton 9.30 Clubrooms or Curlewis Golf Club 10am	22	23 Koroit Swap
24 Federation Picnic. 8.30am Fyansford Hotel carpark	25 Backfire Deadline	26 7pm Tech Night "TBC"	27	28	29 April Backfire Folding Morning	30
31	1 April	2	3	4 Coffee Run Eastern Gardens 10am	5	6