

VINTAGE & CLASSIC CAR CLUB BALLARAT INC.



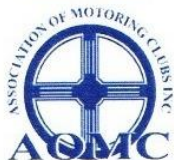
P.O. BOX 1010, BAKERY HILL, VICTORIA, 3354
www.vccc.org.au

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February 2024



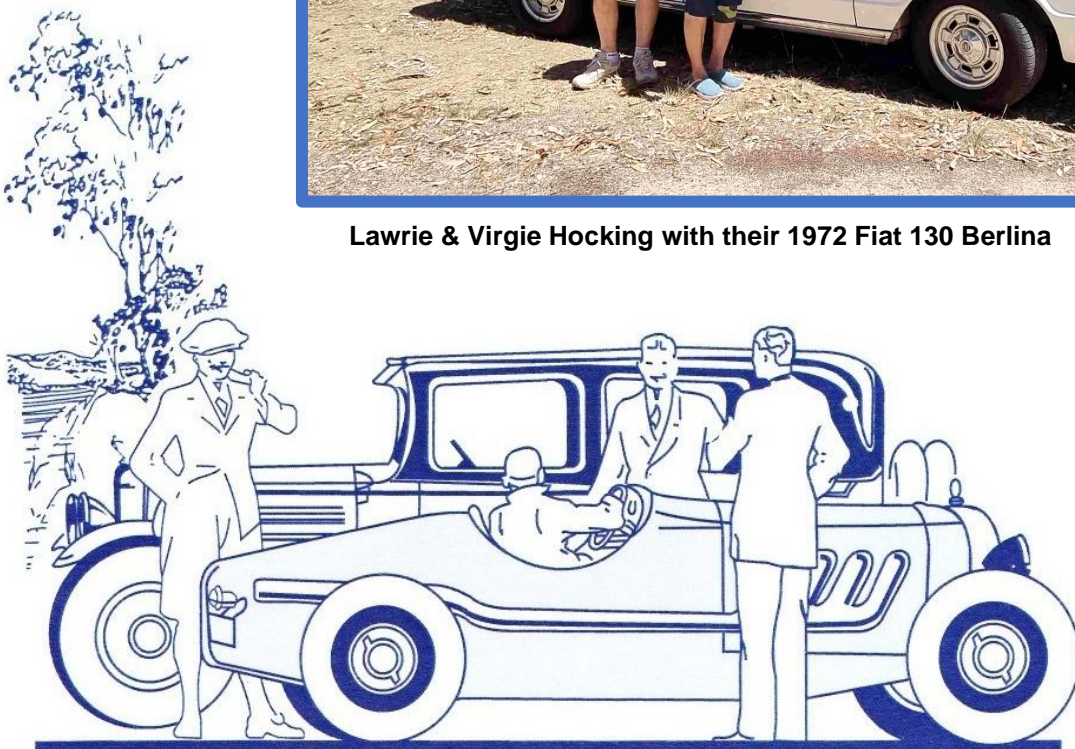
Member Club



Working for Motoring Enthusiasts



Lawrie & Virgie Hocking with their 1972 Fiat 130 Berlina



Meetings held on the 3rd Friday of each month at Clubrooms, Humffray St. Sth. (Cnr Gladstone St.), Ballarat

Note - Meeting Start Time will be at 8.00 PM during Daylight Saving Time

NOTE: The next **General Meeting** will be held **Thursday, 15th February 2024** at the VCCC clubrooms.

Life Members

Alan Firms, Kevin Holloway, Ted Callow (Dec), Norm Grose (Dec), Ron Gay, Ron Goad, Grant Harvey (Dec), Paul Seager (Dec), Bill Whitford (Dec), Daryl Crawley, Tony Taranto and Gordon Roberts

Newsletter

Articles for the **March 2024** newsletter are required no later than **5 pm Tuesday 27th February 2024**

All contributions should be in MS Word with photos in JPG format and emailed to npbackhouse.a30@gmail.com

All contributions acknowledged.

Code Red Fire Rating Days

Any Club event which falls on a day designated as **Code Red** is automatically cancelled, and Members and Guests are advised to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan

Club Office Bearers 2023 – 2024

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Vice president	Brett Holloway (Kirstin)	0418 503 541	brett.holloway@findex.com.au
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VCCC Website – Members area password: vccc2021

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The Club Library will be open 10am until 12noon – 2nd Wednesday of each month –
next is **14th February**, then **13th March** and **10th April**

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Welcome to the February edition of the Club newsletter. Again, many thanks to our contributors for their most interesting reports, and to those who provided photos. Brett Holloway has submitted an article regarding the redevelopment of our Clubrooms – well worth the time to read it.

Nerene Backhouse, Editor

HEALTH MATTERS AND CELEBRATIONS

Celebrations

Another good news story this month – **Michael Pitcher and his partner Bec Todd** have announced their engagement. Congratulations to you both and best wishes for your future together.

Further celebrations are in order – **Daryl and Jenny Crawley** are grandparents for the second time with the arrival of Ange and Josh's son, Banksy George last month. Congratulations to all concerned.

Welfare

Jim Kellett ended up in hospital the next day after our last meeting, following a fall. He is now on the mend.

Bereavement

Our condolences have been sent to Leonie Souied and Brendan Collier on the sad passing of Leonie's mother, Wendy Reeves. Our thoughts are with you both at this difficult time.

Welcome New Members – 19th January 2024

We have pleasure in welcoming the following as members of the Club:

Des and Anne Rix who have a 1983 Holden Ute, 1972 Willys Jeep, 1965 Ford Mustang, 1997 Ford Sedan.

Malcolm and Jayne Mann who have a 1962 Valiant Sedan, Series 3.

Welcome to you all and we hope you enjoy your time with us.

Around The Committee Table – 24th January 2024

1 There were no Membership Applications received

2 House keeping

It was raised at the meeting about Dogs being in the Club Rooms. Club Policy is that dogs are not allowed in the Club Rooms unless they are required as Assistant Dogs. Dogs can be brought to the Club Rooms, but they are required to be secured outside.

3 Building Fund:

A motion was passed at the Committee meeting to establish a Building Fund. Members will be notified when this Account has been opened. It will assist in tracking where we are at financially whilst building the New Clubrooms. Donations will be accepted in to this Account.

4 Club Person of the Year and Life Member Applications

Club Person of the Year is a very special award given to a member who has gone the extra mile to help during the year. By way of acknowledging your gratitude for their service, please fill in a form which is on the front table, on a meeting night. These applications are counted prior to the AGM, and the winner is rewarded with a trophy. It is quite an honour to receive one of these awards.

If you wish to nominate a member for Life Membership, please contact the Club Secretary, Nancy Jackson for an application form, or these are available on meeting nights.

Ross Humphrey, Assistant Secretary

Cover Story – Fiats and Why I Like Them

My interest in Fiat cars began when I was 16 years old in form 4 at the Ballarat Junior Technical School.

The school was near Performance Car Sales which was in Armstrong Street where Central Square now stands. After school and during School holidays I used to go there to clean parts, detail cars and do other odd jobs.

I was hoping to get an apprenticeship there, but a position wasn't available at the time. I got an apprenticeship at Ted Kennedy's garage on the corner of Mair and Peel Street. That was an interesting experience because we had the Army Service contract, repaired a variety of farm trucks, Fergie and Fiat tractors, Vanguard's and many other makes including Fiats.

For most of my time there I had to work unsupervised and relied on what I learned at trade school and reading books. This was really good in a way because I had to figure out most things for myself. We had a fair range of specialised equipment like valve grinding and head inserting gear. All electrical work was done in house also.

Before my apprenticeship finished, I had another apprentice under me. I left the day my apprenticeship finished and went to work at Performance Car Sales who then had a vacancy for a qualified mechanic.

At the time they were selling Fiat, Alfa Romeo, Lancia and later Volvo cars. I loved working on Fiats and Alfas because they were technically advanced, way beyond your average Holden or Ford but were really very simple to work on when you understood their differences. The first Fiat 130 I ever drove was in 1971 after the boss came out to the workshop and announced its arrival. He said it was \$12,500.00.

I, having bought a brand new MK 1 Escort for \$1960.00 the year before, said "No car is worth \$12,500.00 George!" He said, "Let's go for a drive." After finding myself driving around the bends at Nintingbool at 110 MPH, I wished I had the money. How does a mechanic on \$60.00 a week afford that?

I enjoyed every day I worked there and the cars I was able to drive while I was there. I left in 1977 to work for the TRB as the Regional Bus Tester. As my children got their licences, they all started with Fiat 124 Sports Coupes. My Son Stuart still has the one we restored for him when he was 15 years old. He is now 49 and the car has 320 rear wheel horsepower in a car that weighs 900 kilograms.



I started collecting my own Fiats beginning with a 1969 500 Bambino which I restored in 1994. Two of my children learned to drive in it. It now resides with them in Brisbane. I built another 1960 500 Bambino which has disc brakes, coil overs, rose jointed wishbone front end and is Supercharged, Intercooled and Fuel Injected. It was a great learning experience because all the engine hardware was built by me.

Next is my 1972 Fiat 128SL Coupe which is in pristine original condition. I knew the car from when it was 1 year old and used to service it at Performance Car Sales. When I found out that Fiat was bringing out the Abarth 124 Spider in 2016 I made it my business to snare one of the first 100 Launch editions and was able to get

the first one registered to a customer in Australia.

I always maintained a longing to have a Fiat 130 Berlina. These by now were getting very scarce as they only produced 9,000 Berlinas and 4,500 Coupes. Sadly, they rusted very badly and many Berlinas were chopped up to keep Coupes on the road.

I finally found one in Perth in relatively poor but complete condition. I found another in a Fiat wrecker's in Melbourne that had been there for 36 years. It had gone under the back of a truck but was complete in every minor detail. I restored my car using parts from both as a Covid lockdown project over around 18 months.

I learned a lot about panel work, heat shrinking, butt jointing panels and repair patches together and finished up with the car I have now. I am one of those people who will attempt anything before I get someone else to do it.

It, like many other large cars of its day is very heavy on fuel, so I decided to Fuel Inject it. As nobody made suitable hardware for it, I made my own throttle body with injectors and cam angle trigger. I used a Haltech 1500 Elite dual wide band ECU with a knock sensor. The result hasn't saved me any fuel consumption but it has provided easier starting, more power and smoother running, and the ability to run on E10 fuel which is considerably cheaper than 98.

My next project is to fit a Toyota Supra 4 speed overdrive automatic transmission which will reduce cruising RPM by around 1,100. The aim of this exercise is to make it economical to drive to Perth in 2026 to commemorate 100 years since Fiats were driven across to Victoria in 1926.

Driving my 130 reminds me of the first time I drove one way back in 1971. They were miles ahead of anything on the road back then, with 4-wheel ventilated discs, Independent Suspension all round, Electric windows, rear demister, height and reach adjustable steering column 165 HP Din and many other features too numerous to mention all at a price that could buy you 3 GT Falcons. Current prices show that 3 GTs would be a better investment but I believe that I have the better car. I'm sure many may disagree but I'll continue to enjoy what I have.

Thanks for reading.

Lawrie Hocking



Rotary Raffle Tickets – a message from Ian Watson

I have still got plenty of raffle tickets – I would appreciate people contacting me to buy them, but more importantly, it would be best if people could sell them to family, friends, work colleagues etc. It would also help me if people could let me know when there are events on such as Swap Meets, Car Shows etc. so that I can go and sell tickets at them.

Tickets are \$2.00 each and the Club keeps 80% of ticket sales.

First prize is a Hyundai Tuscon valued at \$38,000 and second prize is a Bunnings Voucher for \$1,000.

This is a really good fund-raiser for the Club, and it also helps with our profile in the community.

Please contact me - 0419 020 140 if you can help.

COMING EVENTS – February - March 2024

Keep an eye on the Facebook page for updates. Also, see the Calendar on page 15

~ Twilight Classic Motorcycle Runs ~

These are usually held mid-month on a Wednesday evening (weather dependent). Club Eligible bikes only. Contact **Chris Ridsdale on 0448 425 001** if you would like to be included on his list to be notified when a run is happening.

Friday 9th February - Twilight Sports Car Run

We will be leaving from The Delacombe Town Centre, Dan Murphy car park area, at 6.30pm. The run will be just over 100 kms on all bitumen roads. We will finish at Macca's Delacombe.

John & Gayle Pickering 0408 914 943.

Saturday 10th February – Ladies Crafternoon – 1.30 – 4pm

This month we will be making Begonia Flowers for the Begonia Rally; if we finish that earlier enough, we will find something out of the cupboard to finish off the day.

Contact Jenny Ure – 0409 954 077

Wednesday 14th February – Club Library Open – 10am – 4pm – Contact Daryl Meek 0407 881 288**Wednesday 14th February - Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch**

These gatherings will resume after the summer break. Contact Ray Drury 0417 840 623

Thursday 15th February – Rustless Wanderers Lunch – Royal Hotel Daylesford

Make your own way there; bookings by Monday 12th February – contact Rick Thege 0428 518 770

Thursday 15th February – Club General Meeting 8pm – NOTE – it is the day before due to the Rally**Friday 16th – Sunday 18th February – 2024 Begonia Rally**

Trophy Points Run and our big event for the year. It is still time to enter so that you can enjoy what we have planned. Details of the weekend's activities were included in the November newsletter.

Contact Nerene Backhouse – 0427 348 060 if you have misplaced your Entry Form, or if you have any questions about the weekend.

Tuesday 20th February – Club Committee Meeting – 7.30pm**Wednesday 28th February – Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch – Contact Ray Drury 0417 840 623****Sunday 3rd March – Breakfast on the Mount and 3 Bob's et al Tour**

9am at the top of Mt Buninyong or leave as a group from the Clubrooms at 8:30am.

RSVP Tom Quinlan – 0405 644 696 by Wednesday 28th February for catering purposes.

We still need someone to arrange and lead the 3 Bob's et al Tour after enjoying breakfast. Let Brendan Stevens know – 0409 018 867 – if you can help.

Saturday 9th March – Ladies Crafternoon – 1.30 – 4pm

Contact Jenny Ure 0409 954 077

Wednesday 13th March – Club Library Open – 10am – 4pm – Contact Daryl Meek 0407 881 288**Wednesday 13th March – Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch – Contact Ray Drury 0417 840 623****Thursday 14th March - Rustless Wanderers Lunch – Royal Mail Hotel, Sebastopol**

Make your own way there; bookings by Monday 11th March – contact Rick Thege 0428 518 770

Friday 15th March – Club General Meeting – 8.00pm**Sunday 17th March – Club Run (Trophy Points) – Tomato Run**

We will be leaving from the Doctors Car Park, Learmonth Road at 9.45am. The run will include lunch at the Pyrenees Historical Vehicle Club gathering at Natte Yallock. Contact Brendan Stevens 0409 018 867

VCCC Clubrooms Redevelopment

There has been a fair bit of activity in recent times in relation to options for the Clubrooms, and although there has been/will be discussions at Club meetings, not all members are present, and so as the newsletter is sent to all members, I have been asked to provide a regular update here. This will be each month and broken down to fit with space availability in the newsletter; this month will provide some of the background work so far.

The Club has been waiting for Council to make land available in Yarramie Court Mitchell Park, for which they have not allocated any funds in the current budget. Dating back to last year's Begonia Rally, there was a conversation with Cr Samantha McIntosh who was enthusiastic to help the Club find a suitable location, and this provided the catalyst to move forward. With the new Club year, President Andy Burns asked me to come on board as Vice President and to assist with progressing options for the Clubrooms.

A conversation with City of Ballarat Mayor Des Hudson and CEO Evan King started the initial contact to be connected with the appropriate officers within Council. A meeting was arranged with the Director of Community Wellbeing and the Executive Manager Property and Facilities.

In preparation for this meeting, we scoped out a dozen potential sites, and narrowed down to Learmonth Street (near McCallum), Chisholm Street Hill (top corner of former tip site), Morshead Park (Sutton Street) adjoining Bray Raceway, and the Yarramie Court site.

A positive and productive meeting was held face to face with Council officers, including discussion around shared facilities, alternate sites as above, and options for our existing site, including redevelopment, our existing car park (Gladstone Street which is still a gazetted road), and committing to a long-term lease.

We followed up after the meeting by confirming our position and requests, and have been pleased with their considered response and willingness to engage. The outcome has been positive, and in consideration of our requests, Council advised they will support a redevelopment on our existing site as the number one approach, discounted the other alternatives, and committed to work with us on Gladstone Street and extended lease terms. They have also appointed a Property Officer to deal with directly on behalf of Council.

A Clubrooms Subcommittee has been formed, consisting of President Andy Burns, Vice President Brett Holloway, Mark Border, Darren Miles, Warren Harris with meetings so far in November, December and January.

There is more information to share, including a further update regarding Council (meeting pending), initial drawings and plans for the structure and internal layout, available opportunities for input and feedback, and funding. I will provide further updates in newsletters moving forward as space allows.

Brett Holloway

On behalf of the Building Subcommittee

PAST EVENTS

Midweek Motorcycle Ride Report - Wednesday 17th January

At the Stag Hotel in Learmonth, 40 Classic, Vintage and Veteran motorcycles gathered for a very pleasant evening of like-minded banter. It continues to amaze me, the number of red plate registerable motorcycles there are in and around Ballarat.

It's great to see a good number of motorcycling VCCC members attending these events and we also have sons of VCCC members attending also which is excellent for our goal to keep classic vehicles on the roads.

It probably makes it a bit easier when things like this are now able to have a red plate.....who would have thought!!!

A couple of the veteran bikes that entered the Brisbane to Broome Veteran Rally last year were out for a short evening run.



Colin Sargent's 1915 Spacke and Murray Wright's 1913 Royal Enfield



Paul Seager (RIP) would have been very proud to see his son, Mark, displaying his beautifully restored 1963 BSA Super



Also on display were two very nice Suzuki water bottles and a lovely 6-cylinder CBX Honda

Tony Newman's son Adrian also joined us on a 1977 BMW R100

Please remember, these events are weather dependant so no set dates. If you own a classic, vintage or veteran motorcycle and would like to join in on these daylight saving mid-week runs, please ring Chris Ridsdale on 0448425001 to be added to the list.

Kirk's Picnic – Club Run (Trophy Points) – Sunday 21st January



1979 Lincoln, 1953 Studebaker, 1948 Buick

Attendees at the Kirks Gardens Picnic - 21st January 2024

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rick Thege & Heather Gingell | 1912 Rolls Royce |
| Brett Holloway | 1913 Hupmobile |
| Malcolm & Judith Bandy (2x grandies) | 1916 Cole |
| David Barclay & Trish McMahan | 1928 Chevrolet Huckster Van |
| Damian & Ruth O'Doherty | 1932 Ford |
| Rick Bishop | 1933 Ford Coupe |
| Ken & Therese Hart | 1934 Ford Tudor |
| Roy Littlehales | 1938 Oldsmobile |
| Bob & Tracey Bennetts | 1938 Pontiac Coupe |
| Dale & Junie Collins | 1948 Buick Sedanette |



Catching up on the news – Bob Cole, Barb & Daryl Mitchell and Ron Damen

Ron & Linda Harris
 Jane Moulson & Gene Geoffrey
 Brendan Collier & Leonie Souied
 Mark & Judy Richmond
 Graham & Kerry Quemard
 Jenny Groves
 Kevin Holloway
 Graeme & Heather Angow
 Brendan Stevens
 Nerene Backhouse
 Andy Burns & Phyllis Eason
 Glen & Pauline Whitbourne
 Jeff Morcombe
 Jenny Ure & Rod McDonald
 Tony Newman
 Colin Hill
 Phil & Dianne Rodger
 Merv & Maree Sherlock
 Bruce & Ann Kerr
 Greg & Lyn Crick
 Lee Mills
 Mike & Lyn Simpson
 Noel & Glenis Trengove
 Wayne Lineker & Maureen Berlund
 Tom Quinlan
 Graeme & Shirley Mitchell
 Ron Gay
 Daryl Crawley
 Geof & Joanne Baulch
 Bill Pearce
 Alan & Joy Rogers (+ William)
 Norm & Heather Darwin
 Frank & Carolyn Whitfield
 Daryl & Barb Mitchell
 Wayne & June Harrop
 Rob & Annette Ferguson
 Barry & Cindy Allison
 Kevin & Lorelli Huggins
 Frank & Jan Tamis
 Karen Otto
 John Peart

1951 Buick
 1951 Daimler Consort
 1953 Studebaker
 1953 Ford Mainline ute
 1954 Austin A40
 1955 Austin A30
 1955 FJ Holden
 1955 Ford Customline
 1955 MG Magnette
 1956 Austin A30
 1958 FC Holden
 1958 Austin Lancer
 1963 Ford Fairlane Compact
 1964 Holden EH Premier
 1964 Rover P6 B
 1964 Zodiac
 1965 Ford Mustang
 1966 Rover P5 Mk 3
 1966 Jaguar S Type
 1967 Ford Fairlane
 1967 Ford Falcon GT
 1968 Ford Executive
 1970 Rover P5
 1971 Ford Fairmont GS
 1972 Mercedes Benz
 1974 Rolls Royce
 1975 Toyota Celica
 1975 Ford XB Falcon John Goss Special
 1976 VW Kombi Camper
 1979 Lincoln Mark V11 Coupe
 1980 Ford Escort Coupe
 1984 Jaguar XJS
 1984 Mercedes Benz 380 SE
 1986 Mercedes Benz 300 SE
 1988 Porsche 944 S
 1988 Holden VL Sedan
 1989 Nissan Pintara TI
 1989 Toyota Cressida
 1990 Bentley
 1997 Ford Mondeo
 1998 Mercedes Benz CLK



As is the tradition at this event, those who turned 80 or 90 during the year have a birthday cake in their honour. Jan Tamis, Carolyn Whitfield and Heather Gingell reached that milestone.



Jo Baulch, Linda Harris, Jan Tamis, Geof Baulch, Frank Tamis, Ron Harris, Warren Harris, Andy Burns

Modern - Ian Wells & Sue Kuhl, Ron & Sue Damen, Ray Allen, John & Gayle Pickering, Peter Grose, Bruce Davis, Pam & Gordon Roberts and Bob Cole

Australia Day Breakfast, Haddon Lions Park – 26th January

Once again, the hardworking crew of the Lions Club at Haddon pulled together to feed the hoards on Australia Day. Since Covid the food and service have all been under Gazebos outside the hall which makes for great opportunity to wander and chat with coffee and egg and bacon sandwich in hand.

It was great to see local politicians and federal MP Catherine King mingling with the crowd saying a few words. Australia Day is still celebrated by many and a great excuse to bring community together. The Brass Band belted out some great music also.

The early morning dark clouds didn't put too many off and there was a great mix of vintage and classics plus bikes and hot rods. Just to give real variety 3 unique army vehicles threw a bit of camouflage amongst the bright colours of the classics. Approximately 50 classic vehicles were present with many moderns parked in a separate area. The crowd numbers are hard to estimate but everyone was fed and watered, and pretty well dispersed by 10am.

Big thank you to Haddon Lions and Lioness from the Club. See you next year.
 Brendan Stevens



Typical Australians – make do with what's available! Warren & Barb Harris did just that!



Australian flags were flying proudly – Merv & Maree Sherlock had it covered well inside and out!



Australia Day Display – Lake Wendouree

The weather was a bit iffy, with a few spots of rain, when a large contingent of club members gathered at Haddon Lions Park for the annual Lions Club Australia Day breakfast.

After a quick feed of bacon and eggs, and a cup of coffee, a number of us headed back to Ballarat to participate, by way of a display of Club Cars, in the Golden City Paddle Steamer Museum Associations' Australia Day celebrations.



Tony Newman with his 1953 MG TF and 1962 Jaguar Mk 2

Hocking in his Fiat already in situ, and that the Filipino Association were having a gathering in the park adjacent to us. I was then advised by Tony Newman's son, who was there with the Scouts, that they wanted us to fill up the area virtually down to the drain from the Fish Hatchery. I was a bit concerned that we mightn't have enough vehicles to fill all of the space allocated so made a quick call to Brett and Kevin Holloway who returned with Kevin's recently acquired 1930 Pontiac Landaulet and Brett's Mini Moke (uniquely Australian).

With some impromptu planning, we had a display of eight sixties / seventies cars, predominantly British and European, in the bays on the left, a little further in on the right hand side we had five Aussie icons, also from the '60s and '70s, then further along, with



1966 Rover, 1930 Pontiac Big 6, 1968 Mini Moke, 1960 Fairlane

bays on both sides of the road, we had another 16 – 18 vehicles ranging from Daryl Meek's diminutive 1904 De Dion Bouton to Bill Pearce's huge Lincoln with a pretty diverse mix of Vintage and Classics in between, including Richard English's 1937 Levis Motorcycle.

A couple of members had to head off to other commitments during the day and others soon took their place. Peter Fitzgerald volunteered to take members of the public for a lap of Windmill Drive in his veteran Maxwell and circulated almost non-stop from about 11:00 am until 2:30pm – this was certainly a hit with the passengers, and I can just about guarantee that the road in the area that his passengers were embarking and disembarking will never rust! Thank you for your efforts, Fitzzy and Jude (who assisted people in and out of the vehicle).



Australian cars – 1975 Ford John Goss, 1979 Holden HZ panel van, 1970 Holden HT ute, 1968 Holden Monaro



Most of the owners chose to sit around in the shade under the trees and enjoy a relaxing day having a chinwag, or telling people about their cars, or just wandering about our display. Many of us took advantage of the fantastic spread that the Filipino folk had put on and were happy to share with us in return for a small donation - and the food was delicious (Lawrie was grateful that he wasn't going to be eating leftovers from the picnic for the next week).

There were good crowds of interested people throughout the day and the majority of us hung around until around 4:00pm.

Did I mention that the birds showed their appreciation of Trevor Madden's beautiful HK Monaro causing him to be seen removing their deposits from his bonnet a number of times? (I think we'll put you in the same place next year Trev 😊).

The weather was good to us all day, I even got a bit sunburnt, and we all seemed to enjoy taking part in the event to celebrate our National Day.

Thanks to all of the members that displayed their vehicles, around 30 in total, and hopefully we will be invited back next year.

Daryl Crawley

Attendees at the Lake Wendouree Display

Daryl Meek	1904 De Dion Bouton Model Y	Mike Simpson	1968 Ford Executive
Peter Fitzgerald	1910 Maxwell	Greg Crick	1968 Ford Fairlane
Geof Baulch	1924 Ford T Model	Trevor Madden	1968 Holden Monaro
Barb & Warren Harris	1929 Marquette	Todd McMaster	1970 Holden HT Ute
Kevin Holloway	1930 Pontiac Big 6	Tom Quinlan	1970 Peugeot 404
Richard English	1937 1937 Levis 600	Mark Border	1972 Ford Ute
Bob & Tracey Bennetts	1938 Pontiac Sloper	Ron & Sue Damen	1972 Valiant VF Coupe
Tony Newman	1953 MG TF	Lawrie Hocking	1972 Fiat Coupe
Andy Burns	1954 Vanguard Spacemaster	Daryl Crawley	1975 Ford John Goss Special Coupe
Brendan Stevens	1955 MG Magnette	Bill Pearce	1979 Lincoln Mk 5 Coupe
Nerene Backhouse	1956 Austin A30	Rob McMaster	1979 Holden HZ Panel van
Ron & Linda Harris	1960 Ford Fairlane	Alan & Joy Rogers	1980 Ford Escort Coupe
Tony Newman	1962 Jaguar Mk 2	Barry & Cyndy Allison	1987 Nissan Skyline Silhouette
Colin Hill	1964 Zodiac	Rob Ferguson	1988 Holden Commodore VL
Merv Sherlock	1966 Rover P5 Mk 3	John Peart	1998 Range Rover
Lyn Simpson	1966 Ford Cortina		
Ross Humphrey	1967 Holden HR Premier		
Brett Holloway	1968 Mini Moke		

Country Canter to the Melbourne Tramcar Preservation Association at Haddon – Saturday 27th January



Tony Smith talking about the tram collection

Thanks to Daryl Crawley's directions, Glenn McCubbin and I were able to find the Bus Exchange, and we were the first ones to arrive there (modern), followed by Nerene Backhouse (also early) then, shortly after an almost constant stream of Club cars . . . a sight to behold!

Around 10 am we headed off on what seemed a long, but interesting drive to see the trams under restoration at Haddon, run by Tony Smith. Tony greeted us and shared some of his vast knowledge of trams over the decades, after which we visited the massive sheds where the trams are housed. Some are beautifully restored and some are in the process and some are waiting their turn.



Jim with No 55

I'm looking down a 'corridor' between rows of trams and I spotted a No. 55 tram which immediately sparked my interest, and, as I suspected, on closer inspection, it did its service on the Coburg West-Bell Street line, which commenced in South Melbourne. I think it passed through the City along William Street, down Flemington Road, through the parklands past the Zoo, Brunswick, Moreland, Coburg (Melville Road) terminating at Bell Street, Pascoe Vale. I grew up quite close to the Melville Road tram line and it was our primary source of transport as at that time Dad did not have a car.

I climbed aboard and immediately had memories of many, many trips to the Zoo or the City to walk around the shops with Mum and my sister. I sat down where I had so often



Ray Broatch, Glen McCubbin, Jim Stewart, Ian Williams

sat as a child on the shaped wooden slat seats (likely the very same tram at times) in the 40's & 50's . . . beside me there was the pull-down canvas blind whose job it was to protect us from both sun and rain.



Norm Darwin, Andy Burns, Landon, Mike Simpson

For a few moments, I was a child again off on another adventure while Mum bought our tickets. Sometimes when the last ticket in the 'book' was sold, the 'Connie' (conductor) would give the ticket stub to a kid and we were thrilled to get one . . . it did not take much to keep us amused in those days.

Well, I am back in the real world now and it is time to say thank you and goodbye to our host, and head off to lunch and a look through the huge collection of farm equipment, trucks, cars, caravans and memorabilia at Tom Mulcahy's place, where there are a few enormous sheds full of interesting things.

Thanks to Brendan Stevens for organising our day, Tony Smith for his hospitality and I must not forget Daryl Crawley for nominating me to write this??? Gee, thanks Daz!!!

Jim Stewart

PS: *Hopefully, someone more qualified than me will write something about Tom's great collection. Thanks Tom*

Country Canter Saturday 27th January - Tom Mulcahy's Vintage Machinery Collection

It was early in 2023 that Tom approached me to come out and have a look at the collection that he has amassed over his working life both farming and in the trucking industry. Tom rehoused his machinery in shedding on the outskirts of Ballarat when he retired from full time farming, and he and his wife moved close to town.

Tom's collection ranges from the A model Ford truck his father drove to the Ford 9000 Louisville that Tom drove himself in early 2000's. He has a huge range of International Trucks and Tractors from many manufacturers and pre 1900 grain strippers thru to much later 1900's headers. Mixed up amongst the big equipment is parts and pieces from all around the farm with many quirky tools and spares for all sorts of machinery. There were also several classic cars including early Holdens, Morris, Austin and even a Citroen amongst the heavy machinery.

Tom has also put together a huge number of old photos and newspaper articles each with a story behind the scenes. On the mezzanine level of the biggest shed there are also books, operating manuals, advertising material and truck and tractor models all overlooking the machinery below.

One very interesting vehicle is the home-made motorhome, at least 25-30 feet long mounted on the extended chassis of a 1956 International truck. The whole caravan style body is adorned with photos of machinery and





Hey! Nerene, can you shift that Chev truck out from the middle of the shed?

farmwork from around Streatham and the Mulcahy family property. It really is unique and was used to get around to Agricultural events and Historic Farm shows last century.

Tom and his mate/assistant Alan are to be congratulated as they spent all of Australia Day sweeping, raking, washing, and dusting to allow easy access, and to highlight the colours of all the vehicles on display. It must have been a big job.

The 44 people in 27 cars all enjoyed picnic lunch and several hours having a good look around.

The last of the members didn't leave until after 3:30pm and we all thank Tom and Alan for their efforts.

Brendan Stevens

Attendees - Country Canter

Visited Tramways Restoration (Tony Smith) & Farm and Truck Collection (Tom Mulcahy)

Col Bowen	1923 Ford T Model (Rawleighs Van)	Mike Simpson & Landon	1968 Ford Executive
Geof Baulch	1924 Ford T Model	Brian Drennan	1969 VW Beetle
Bob & Tracey Bennetts	1938 Pontiac Sloper	Ron Damen	1972 Valiant VF Coupe
Brendan Collier, Rick Bishop, Bill Grubits	1953 Studebaker Starliner	Tony Newman & Ian Williams	1974 Rover P6B
Brendan Stevens	1955 MG Magnette	Ron Gay	1974 Toyota Celica
John Fisher	1956 Morris Minor	Frank Tamis	1978 Holden Ute HZ
Andy Burns	1958 Holden FC Sedan	Norm & Heather Darwin	1984 Jaguar Sovereign XJ6
Col & Merrilyn Sargent	1958 Triumph TR4	Tony McDonald & Ivan Tarrant	1984 Jaguar Sovereign XJ6
Colin Hill	1964 Zodiac	Frank Whitfield	1985 Mercedes Benz 280CE
Daryl Crawley & Ray Broatch	1965 Ford Galaxy Convertible	Barry & Cyndy Allison	1987 Nissan Skyline Silhouette
Merv Sherlock	1966 Rover P5 Mk 3	Wayne & June Harrop	1988 Porsche 944S
Neville Finch	1966 Ford Thunderbird	Nerene Backhouse	1988 Nissan Skyline
Graeme Musgrove & Roy Littlehales	1966 Ford Mustang	Alan & Joy Rogers	1988 Mercedes Benz 300CE
Greg & Lyn Crick	1968 Ford Fairlane	John Peart	1997 BMW 528
Bruce Kerr	1968 Morris Cooper		
Modern - Warren Harris, Glen McCubbin & Jim Stewart			

FROM THE LIBRARY SHELF

A503

February, 2024

FLOYD CLYMER'S HISTORICAL CATALOG OF 1924 CARS.

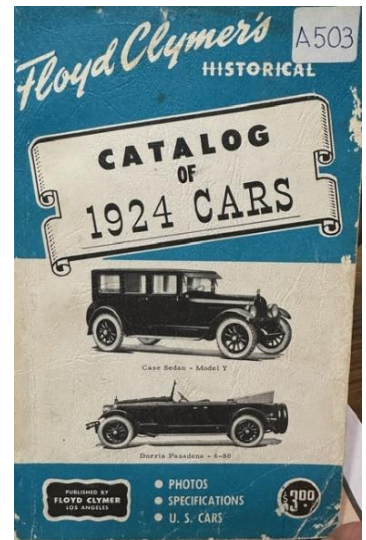
American Cars, Trucks and Electric Cars and Trucks,
Photos, Specifications and Price List

Published in 1958

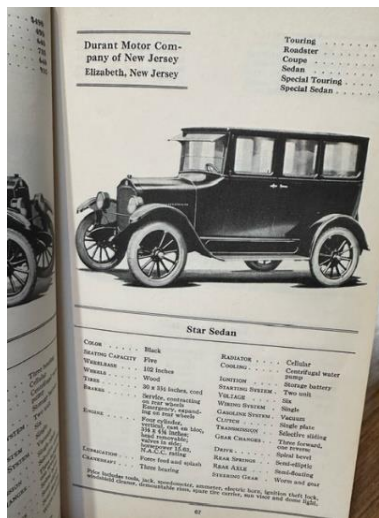
230 Pages

This book was originally published by the American National Automobile Chamber of Commerce in 1924. These original books have, in more recent years, become rare and valuable collectors' items. Fortunately, Floyd Clymer in Los Angeles reprinted these books so that they could be obtained more easily and at a cheaper cost. This book has a "gold mine" of accurate information for owners and collectors of early cars. It is a catalogue of all the cars produced by the Automotive Companies who were members of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. Henry Ford's vehicles are not included as he always seemed to do everything his own way!

This book was one of the early ones purchased back in the seventies for our Club Library when the vast number of Club vehicles were Vintage cars. It is interesting to note the number of electric cars and trucks that were built in 1924 by American Companies.



This is a book that I would have liked to have had back in 1957/8 when I owned my first car in my student days – a very original 1924 Rugby Sedan - of course, in America the Durant Motor Company called the cars Stars, but in England and the British Empire countries like Australia, the English Star cars were sold and hence the car had a name change to Rugby. Durant built Star/Rugby Tourers, Roadsters, Coupes, Deluxe Special Tourers and Sedans ranging from \$490 to \$935 in America in 1924.



Many years later, I was talking to Marg's father, Jim, about my first car being a 1924 Rugby Sedan. It seems there was a display of new and second-hand Rugby cars for sale at the Beaufort Show in 1924, and Jim's



parents arranged to buy their first car – a new 1924 Tourer - from A. J. Skene who were Blacksmiths & Wheelwrights. They were the local Rugby dealers at the time. Jim's parents never drove, so, at the age of 14 years, he became the family chauffeur. A couple of years later, at 16 years of age, the local policeman gave Jim his licence, so he was finally legal! Jim gave me some photographs taken at the time. The car, with the registration number of 49111, was an earlier 1923 Tourer with the different curved radiator shell. Does anybody know if the Company of A. J. Skene was in Beaufort or, perhaps, Ballarat?

Postscript:

Floyd Clymer produced a whole series of these reproduction books, but I have been able to obtain only the 1924 and 1929 catalogues back in the seventies. Both these books were borrowed quite frequently in the early days by Club members.

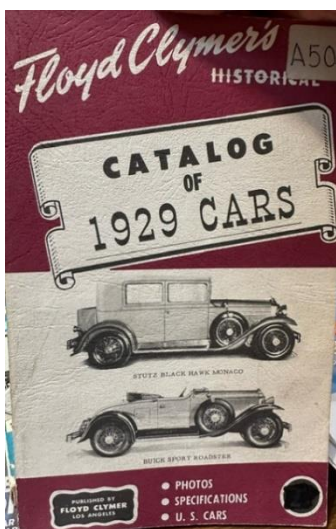
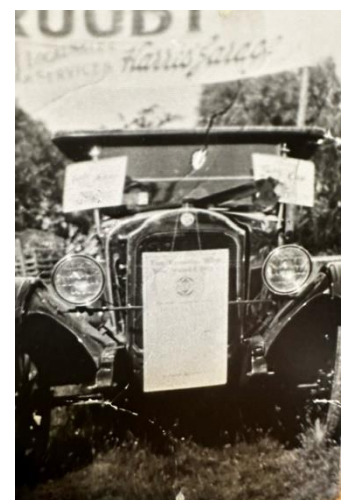
A504 Floyd Clymer's Historical Catalog of 1929 Cars

Ron Gay



Above – Ron pitching a 'tent' on to his Rugby in 1957 at Phillip Island.

The black and white photos are those on display at the Beaufort Show.



APPROVED SAFETY CHECKERS

The Club's approved safety checkers for pre 1949 vehicle initial Club Permit applications are:
Neale Goad Automotive, 206 Burnbank Street, Wendouree Phone 5339 2056 Contact Neale
Reptile Gulch Motors, 209 Doveton Street, Ballarat Phone 53337206 Contact Henry

NOTICE BOARD

Upcoming Events from other regions you may be interested to go to if you are in the area:

10 th February	Glenlyon Swap Meet	Recreation Reserve, Dysart Street
11 th February	Snake Valley Swap Meet	Snake Valley Football Ground
24 th February	Kingston Swap Meet	Kingston Showgrounds
2 nd March	Ballan Vintage Swap Meet	Old Racecourse, Racecourse Road
19 th March	Maldon Swap Meet	Racecourse Reserve
23 rd March	Koroit Swap Meet & Car Show	Victoria Park, Koroit

CLASSIFIEDS – FOR SALE AND WANTED

All advertisements under Classifieds must include a registration number, engine number, VIN OR chassis number and cash price. Vehicles advertised in this Newsletter must be 25 years or older in line with Club Policy. The advertisements will remain for three (3) consecutive issues unless they are re-advertised.

Please advise the Editor if you sell your item or obtain what you want.

Deadline for articles – Tues 27th February 2024 Editor, Nerene Backhouse – npbackhouse.a30@gmail.com

From Paul Jenkins

3 Bridgestone tubeless steel belted radial tyres B249 P 175/75 R14 865

I know that these tyres are too good to just retire.

I have just replaced the tyres on my 1967 MGB because one had shredded to bits, (son over from Broome driving).

As the existing could not be matched I have had 4 new tyres fitted.

As a result, I have 3 good tyres which I would like to unload to a club member/s for a donation to the Building or Club funds.

I have no idea what they are worth but if a member wished to gain for a donation to the Club, I would be happy.

Contact Paul - 0408 343 053

WANTED

Remy 713-C starter motor to suit 1922 Jewett Deluxe Touring.

Contact Gareth - 0466 807 744

GETTING CLUB PERMITS SIGNED – Permit Officer, Richard English has issued a friendly reminder regarding the procedure for getting your Permits signed, as follows:

First and preferred option – Bring your permit renewal to the next club meeting for signing.

If you are unable to attend a meeting then:

Second Option – Mail to Club P.O. Box and include a stamped DL size self-addressed envelope.

Third Option – Mail to Permit Officer address and include a stamped DL size self-addressed envelope.*

Fourth Option – Drop into Permit Officer's letterbox for pick up the following business day (include your phone number to get a text to say it's ready for pick up) or include a stamped DL size self-addressed envelope.*

Fifth Option – Contact Permit Officer and make other arrangements.

VERY IMPORTANT – When applying for a new Permit - PLEASE make sure you have ALL the necessary documents. This will save both you and the Permit Officer a lot of wasted time.

NOTE* re Options Three and Four – PERMIT OFFICERS ARE ALL RETIRED AND ARE NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE. ALWAYS TEXT OR PHONE BEFORE USING THESE OPTIONS TO ENSURE THE PERMIT OFFICER IS NOT AWAY AS YOU MAY NOT GET YOUR PERMIT BACK IN TIME.

CLUB CALENDAR – FEBRUARY - APRIL 2024

For the Details of Events, See Page 5

Twilight Motorcycle Runs are held on Wednesday evenings, mid-month – weather dependent – during daylight saving months. To be informed of these runs, give **Chris Ridsdale – 0448 425 001** – your contact details.

FEB	Date	What	Where	Contact	Phone	Time
Fri	9th	Twilight Sports Car Run	DTC, Dan Murphy Car Park	John & Gayle	0408914943	6:30pm
Sat	10th	Ladies Crafternoon	Clubrooms	Jenny Ure	0409954077	1:30-4pm
Sun	<i>11th</i>	<i>Picnic at Hanging Rock</i>	<i>See Facebook/website</i>			
Wed	14th	Club Library open	Have a cuppa and chat	Daryl Meek	0407881288	10 -12noon
Wed	14th	Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch	Clubrooms	Ray Drury	0417840623	11am-2.30pm
Thurs	15th	Rustless Wanderers	Royal Hotel Daylesford	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
Thurs	15th	Club General Meeting	Clubrooms – Note: change of day			8pm
Fri-Sun	16-18th	Begonia Rally	Late entries will be accepted	Nerene Backhouse	0427348060	
Tues	20th	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms			7:30pm
Wed	28th	Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch	Clubrooms	Ray & Marj Drury	0417840623	11am-2.30pm

MAR

Sun	3rd	Breakfast on the Mount & 3 Bob's et al Tour	Top of Mt Buninyong by 9am or leave as a group from clubrooms at 8:30am	Tom Quinlan	0405644696	Clubrooms at 8:30am
Sat	9th	Ladies Crafternoon	Clubrooms	Jenny Ure	0409954077	1:30-4pm
<i>Fri-Sun</i>	<i>8-10th</i>	<i>Philip Island Classics</i>	<i>Philip Island</i>			
<i>Sun</i>	<i>10th</i>	<i>Historic Commercial Vehicle</i>	<i>At Clunes</i>			
Mon	11th	Labour Day Holiday				
Wed	13th	Club Library open	Have a cuppa and chat	Daryl Meek	0407881288	10 - 12noon
Wed	13th	Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch	Clubrooms	Ray & Marj Drury	0417840623	11am-2.30pm
Thurs	14th	Rustless Wanderers	Royal Mail Hotel Sebastopol	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
Fri	15th	Club General Meeting	At Clubrooms			8pm
Sun	17th	Tomato Run – Club Run (Trophy Points)	Drs Car Park – Learmonth Road	Brendan Stevens	0409018867	Leave 9:45am
Tues	19th	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms			7:30pm
<i>Thu-Sun</i>	<i>21-24th</i>	<i>Melbourne Grand Prix</i>	<i>Albert Park Melbourne</i>			
<i>Sat</i>	<i>23rd</i>	<i>Eddington Sprints</i>				
<i>Sun</i>	<i>24th</i>	<i>Federation Picnic</i>	<i>Mortlake</i>			
Wed	27th	Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch	Clubrooms	Ray & Marj Drury	0417840623	11am
<i>Fri-Sun</i>	<i>29-31</i>	<i>Easter Holidays</i>				
<i>Fri-Sun</i>	<i>29-31</i>	<i>Zephyr/Zodiac Nationals</i>	<i>Ballarat</i>			
Sat	30th	Lunch for Z/Z Nationals	Lake Wendouree	Mike Simpson	0419935147	
APR		Daylight Saving ends 7th				
Sun	7th	Naked Radiator Run	Depart Clubrooms	Frank & Jan Tamis	0475192372	10-30am
<i>Sun</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Guildford Car Show</i>				

Events in italics are hosted by other clubs/organisations. Calendar info to Brendan Stevens by **25th of each month**



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