



**Goldfields
Car Club Inc.**

Established 1998

Goldfields Gazette

Newsletter of the
Goldfields Car Club Inc.

August 2024



**Goldfields
Car Club Inc.**

Registered No: A0037502W



Postal Address

PO Box 2039
Bakery Hill 3354

Email address

goldfieldsgazette@gmail.com

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of every month (except January at the Lions' Den, rear of the Pinarc building at 222 Otway Street South, Ballarat.



GCC has been a member of the Association of Motoring Clubs since 1999

Office Bearers for 2024 - 2025

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Club Permits

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Gordon Roberts	0409 773 464	

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES for the period July 2024 to June 2025

The amount of the GCC annual subscription is determined at the Annual General Meeting for the following financial year.

Annual Membership Fees are due and payable by 17 AUGUST 2024.

Annual Membership: Family \$50 Single \$45

Payment can be paid via any one of the following methods:

- OR** 1. In cash or by cheque to the treasurer at the next meeting.
OR 2. By cheque mailed to the Club's postal address: The Treasurer PO Box 2039 Bakery Hill 3354
OR 3. Direct into the Club's bank account: (either at the bank **OR** on-line)

Account Name: Goldfields Car Club
Bank: Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633108
Account Number: 108616640

Reference on the deposit form: Your Initials and Surname.

Should any assistance be required please contact Club Treasurer Stuart Bell. [M] 0487765294

COVER CAR

This is my 1996 VS Commodore Ute. It is a V6 automatic, bought 2 years ago and rebuilt, repainted and re-trimmed. Now a good club vehicle. Mike Robins



Holden Press Release image for the VS Utilities

Holden released the VS ute on 5 April 1995 and it went on sale on the 19th April at \$23,700 after tax. The model ran until the VU series in Dec 2000. This meant the VS utilities also ran through the VT Commodore series, ie there was no VT utility. In May 1998 a Series II ute was released, this provided utes with central locking and the passenger side door lock was deleted, other Series II changes on the Sedans were also fitted, like cup holders in the glove box, seat belt warning light and seat trims.

Holden also offered the SS package on the utility from the Series II. A Series III ute was also added in Feb 1999.

Presidents Report

The July meeting was the closing of a very successful club year under Ray's leadership. Well done, Ray.

In my humble opinion the high lights of the year were the Christmas function and the New Year's Day celebrations. What wonderful venues we enjoyed on both these occasions. The meals at both venues were superb, The Christmas function was catered for by a professional team and the Australia Day celebrations were catered for by our own catering committee.

I am told by a very reliable source that the same venues and caterers are already booked for these forth coming events. The surprise will be "what Frances has planned for entertainment."

Not much to report at this early stage for the 2024-2025 club year. I believe that the Program Committee have already planned some interesting outings for our enjoyment. I am sure that they would welcome any further suggestions to schedule into the program.

The plan is to hold a committee meeting prior to the August meeting, after which there should be some more information to share with you all then.

Next Meeting our guest speaker will be Ambulance Victoria speaking about strokes, what to do.

Best regards Peter

Coffee and chat Lilly's at Eureka 11th July

Eighteen members attended Lilly's on a typical Ballarat winters day to enjoy the warmth with coffee and cake and company of other members. Chat and relax was the order of the day. Thanks to all that attended...
Trevor



Goldfields Birthday

Sunday 28th July was scheduled as the club Birthday celebration. The day dawned chilly but clear. Organising was by Frances and Chris with a run to the Bull & Mouth Hotel in Maryborough. Since before Covid, it had been planned to visit honorary member Marlene's home. As Marlene's collection has now been reduced to just the FJ it was decided to visit son Malcolms shed and view a few special HJ Holden coupes.

In addition, to the cars we were also delighted to see a friendly draught horse owned by Julie. There was a strong roll-up by members with 54 sitting down to an excellent two course meal. This was then topped off with a chocolate birthday cake. Marlene cut the cake and as most were full it was wrapped and taken home.

Frances also ran a competition round a Holden quiz with the winner, Daryl, taking home a Holden book donated by Marlene.
Norm





THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE THAT JUST TAKE THINGS TOO FAR

We probably all know a person or know of a person that is obsessed with their interests or hobbies, who go to extremes to pursue their interests. Well may I tell you my own husband is one of these people, but in his case the cause of his over-the-top pursuits is the need to save money. He has a real need to "save a bob" on any transaction he makes.

As a demonstration of this need, I want to bring your attention to an action which took place in the last couple of weeks.

Back in the early 1980's Nicko (fellow member of our club) had a Valiant Sedan, and for some reason unknown by me, his father dropped the motor out of it and just left it where it landed. It lay there for years unloved and unwanted by anybody. Valiants in those days were not sought out as desirable as they are today. Well since the time the motor landed on the ground at Nicko's place the real estate in Buninyong did become very desirable and Nicko's double block became a single block after he subdivided the land he owned behind him, on which the said Valiant motor still lay in an ever-decaying state.

Now the lovely folk who purchased this land and built a home on had no real reason to have an old rusty motor just sitting in their back yard, so they did exactly what I would have done, cover it with soil and make it into a flower bed. So, there it lay going deeper and deeper into the earth as the years passed.

That was until my obsessed old man required a couple of push rods to complete a project he is doing on our own Valiant. He arranged with Nicko to have a word with his neighbours as to their feelings regarding the removal of the motor from their garden. Fortunately, they are very co-operative old fashioned reasonable people who agreed to the proposal.

Off Chris went with his shovel and Crowbar to retrieve the motor. He soon dug it out but neglected to take a photo before the thing had finally emerged. So wick head Chris, piloted the motor onto the trailer and that is when he thought about taking a picture, as seen below.

The amazing fact about this story is that the parts that were wanted from the old motor were found to be in perfect order as the motor had been laying upside down and protected the required push rods in great condition.

RESULT Chris happy / Nicko's neighbours Happy too

FRANCES



INVITE FROM VCCC

Sunday 20th October 2024 Monthly Clun Run - Picnic At Mt Franklin (Trophy Points)

The Picnic at Mt Franklin is on again after a (long) pause due to covid. This is an interclub event with any other car clubs welcome to join us. Bring yourselves a picnic lunch and seats. Leaving from Ballarat Showgrounds in Creswick Road at 9.45am for a leisurely 70km drive through the countryside to arrive at the Mount about 11.15. After lunch feel free to continue your journey by visiting nearby Daylesford & Hepburn.

INVITE

The Goulburn Valley Motor Vehicle Drivers Club would like to invite your members to this year's Rally of the Valley. It will run from 1st to 5th November 2024 and will be based in Shepparton.

The entry form is available on the club's website at https://www.gvmvdc.com.au/GVM_Rally.html

If you have any questions regarding the rally, please email them to this email address.

Hope to see you there.

Brendan Walsh Rally of the Valley Committee

AOMC NEWS

These days there is a lot of talk about reducing carbon emissions to reduce the impact of Climate Change. But will this impact on the historic and collectable vehicle movement? The answer is yes, it will have an impact.

In Australia and around the world Governments supported by the community are looking at ways to reduce greenhouse emission. This includes restrictions on where older vehicles can travel. For example in parts of the UK, including London, there are Ultra Low Emissions Zones (ULEZ) where vehicles must pay a charge (£12.50 for most vehicle types and £100 for heavier trucks).



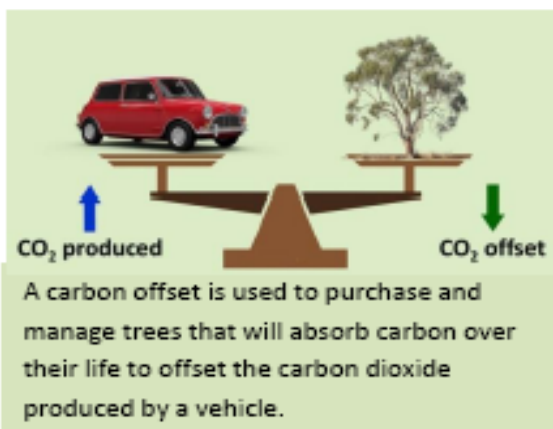
This charge was to apply to all vehicles, but due to the involvement of organisations supporting the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run, veteran vehicles registered in the UK are exempt. However, the ULEZ in both London and Brighton was one of the reasons the London to Brighton Mini race was cancelled this year (this event has been run each year since 1986). Also in the UK, the Government plans to ban the sale of all petrol and diesel powered vehicles in 2035 which will in time have a great impact on the availability of fuels and oils.

In Australia there is talk about lower vehicle emissions but it is not clear how these rules will impact on the historic and collectable vehicle movement. For example, will the Victorian Government decide that Club Permits are supporting polluting vehicles and cancel this great system? Will there be higher registration fees on vehicles that do not have the latest emissions technologies, even if they are classics? And will there be restrictions on using collectable cars in some areas?



As motoring enthusiasts we know that most of our special vehicles are not driven many days of the year and do not add significantly to greenhouse emissions. We also maintain our vehicles. But we need to show that our movement cares about the environment so that we can be part of the development of future rules.

One way to do this is to purchase carbon offsets to offset the greenhouse emissions our special vehicles produce. In this way we can show to governments and the community that we are environmentally aware and care for the environment.



The AOMC has worked closely with an organisation, Greenfleet, to develop a carbon offset program that is relevant and affordable for historic and collectable vehicles. This program, recognising that our vehicles usually only travel short distances each year, has two levels of Offset. They are:

- up to 3,000km/year \$22:00
- up to \$6,000km/year. \$44:00

In this way, for a very little cost, any person with an historic or collectable vehicle that is only used for short distances each year can be seen to be balancing the greenhouse emissions. This will enable the AOMC and other motoring organisations to show that

the historic and collectable vehicle movement is a partner in greenhouse gas abatement and should have a role in the development of future rules.

The AOMC therefore strongly recommends that every car club member purchase an AOMC Carbon Offset.

To purchase an AOMC Carbon Offset go to the AOMC website www.aomc.asn.au. On the top of the page click on the words, **Carbon Offset Program**. Or, if you are reading this on your computer click on the following link: www.aomc.asn.au/carbon-offset

Why Greenfleet?



The AOMC Carbon Offset program is managed by Greenfleet, a not-for-profit environmental organisation that has been operating for over 25 years. Over this period they have created over 550 native biodiverse forests, restored over 10,000 hectares of native vegetation, planted over 10.5 million trees and offset more than 4.4 million tonnes of CO₂. Also as well as capturing carbon, these forests improve soil and water quality, and restore habitat for native wildlife.

Greenfleet offers a range of carbon offset choices for everyday vehicle use, but has worked with the AOMCF to develop the AOMC Offset program that recognises collectable and historic vehicles usually only travel short distances each year.

2024	GOLDFIELDS CAR CLUB CALENDAR OF EVENTS			Events & details subject to change
Jul	Thursday 11	Coffee & Chat	Lilly's at Eureka Meet at Venue 2pm	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
	Wednesday 17	Club AGM	Lion's Den 7.30pm Election Night	
	Wednesday 24	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Sunday 28	Club Run	Maryborough BIRTHDAY RUN & LUNCH	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
Aug	Thursday 8	Coffee Run	Mystery Run Mt Helen Krooze Café 2pm	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
	Wednesday 21	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Friday 23 - 26	CLUB WEEKEND	Tocumal 3 night trip meet 9am Bus Exchange	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
	Wednesday 28	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
Sept	Thursday 12	Coffee Run	Tulips Lambley Nursery & Gardens Ascot Coffee at Clunes	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
	Wednesday 18	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 25	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Sunday 29	Club Run	Mt Macedon	Steve Kelly & Julie Wilson 0435 428 915 0400 126 870
Oct	Thursday 10	Coffee Run	TBA	
	Wednesday 16	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 23	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Saturday/Sunday 26/27	Club Run/Weekend	Dunolly Gold Festival Weekend (Free camping available at the Oval)	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
Nov	Thursday 14	Coffee Run	TBA	
	Sunday 17	Club Run	Moonambel Patina Breakdown	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
	Wednesday 20	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 27	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
Dec	Sunday 8	Lunch	Invermay Sports Club Christmas Lunch	
	Thursday 12	Coffee Run	TBA	
	Wednesday 18	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	

ITINERARY FOR THE BIG RED GUM, RIVER RUN

FRIDAY 23RD

Leave the Old Melbourne Road bus exchange at 9.00 am



Head through Daylesford toward Rushworth (See map)Pause in Malmsbury after travelling 80 Ks for morning tea. (SELF CATER in the park, by the lake OR PURCHASE)

Then let's keep truckin to Rushworth (111 Ks) Lunch in Rushworth. Bring your own or there is a good bakery among other eateries in town. Have a walk up the main street of this lovely old country town.

We will then head through Heathcote toward Nagambie. Onto Shepparton and then straight up the road to Invergordon, Katamatite and hopefully end up in Tocumwal NSW just in time to enjoy Happy Hour to celebrate our successful arrival. We will have stops along the way to investigate various points of interest, and comfort stations.

For our **Friday evening meal**, I have thought due to experiencing the food at the Farmers Arms Hotel, and who have agreed to supply a bus to collect us and bring us back home again to the Boomerang. For want of better knowledge I booked for us to be ready at 6.15 pm to catch the bus. That's after we have had a probably short "Happy hour". Or we could do happy hour at the hotel.

SATURDAY MORNING About (9.30 to 10.00) am we will gather to take the short journey to a most interesting power energy source called "The Drop" after which we will head to a significant aboriginal site called the Blow Hole. Apparently, this site is not as awe inspiring as it once was due to current atmospheric conditions, but never the less worthy of a little drive to view. We will then head to the Tocumwal Aviation Museum where we will, well and truly be entertained with the display and history of war years where young pilots were trained and lots of times died in their endeavour to learn how to fly a plane. There is an excellent café at this place for a coffee and something to eat if you feel war planes are not for you. This exhibit should take us about an hour or so if we take the time to look at the old footage of early planes and pilots being trained to go off to war with many not ever returning. This is a sobering exhibit which makes me wonder, knowing the state of the present world and particularly Australia for what did these young innocent men sacrifice their lives.

SATURDAY ARVO

As the Toc Airport has a really good café type facility, we can have a light lunch before heading off. The rest of the arvo is your free time until we gather at the Camp Kitchen in the Boomerang camp ground about 6 pm or earlier for happy hour and a (pot luck) meal. A couple of our ladies will volunteer to accompany me to the supermarket to purchase food to enjoy a BBQ for tonight's meal.

I will be asking for a \$10.00 note from each person and I promise we will knock up a feed to fill us all. (Remember the 3 little fish and five loaves of bread.) and we will probably all receive change. After our meal (cooked by a couple of chaps who will volunteer won't they?) we may have some merriment and jocularly. To help along the jocularly I suggest you bring along a bottle (or 2) of your preferred wine. (or your preferred drink) As we are self-catering bring along a plate & cutlery including a spoon for sweets.

There is seating provided at the Camp kitchen but we may need to provide extra, so throw your chair and table in the boot (to be sure to be sure as the Irishman said when he applied the second condom) that we all have a seat. The theme for Saturday evening will be OUTRAGEOUS. Either ear rings or socks. Or to be super outrageous why not wear both?

SUNDAY MORNING. (9.00 am) Today we will head down the road (expect a small amount of gravel) to visit a national treasure (well I think) George Chrystie and his car museum. George is a person I would describe as just a true old-fashioned Aussie. This is not a pristine type museum that one would encounter in Deniliquin or Shepparton, but a collection of "Stuff" that this old guy has spent his many years collecting. Chris & I ended up spending the entire day with him. When our group eventually get away from Chrysties museum we have been invited to a private "Men's shed" of which we are told are some very respectable vehicles.

Lunch unplanned at this stage.

SUNDAY ARVO We are spoilt for choices this afternoon. But my suggestion is Cactus Country just a few K's out on the main road in Strathmerton. It is rather pricey at \$25.00 P.H but if you have a senior's card \$20.00 will be the admittance fee. I feel this is a great opportunity to see a very unusual type of garden. There is a bar & restaurant which I believe serves Cactus Cake. However, for those who dislike prickles, the very interesting old Railway Station is worth a visit. \$5.00 pp. entry. Wonderful stories and films about local people of old.

SUNDAY EVENING We may for our final night together, dine at the fine old 1908 Terminus Hotel. I didn't get the chance to try the food out but I reckon it should be OK, because the owner is a French lady and the ambiance of the interior and exterior of this old hotel is just to my taste.

Please Note

If you feel the accommodation, I have chosen does not suit you, please feel free to book elsewhere, as what I choose is not mandatory, but it will be the place where we will all gather for Saturday nights meal and leave from on our excursions.

AND the above itinerary may change, I am just advising of what is happening as far as I can tell at this time. Members of the Goldfields Car Club inc. have always been people who "go with the flow" and make the best of every situation that appears from time to time. That is why I feel very confident in arranging a stay away for the club because thank goodness "my sometimes" bad choices are forgiven by most members.

If you need more info call me on 0448 464 500. Frances



CLUB WEEKEND TOCUMWAL 3 NIGHT TRIP 23-26 AUGUST 2024

THE BIG RED GUM, RIVER RUN

Chris and I have been busy putting together a Goldfields Car Club 3 day (3 nights) run staying in Tocumwal NSW. The intention is to leave Ballarat at an acceptable hour on Friday morning 23rd August and return home on Monday 26th. However, how long and where you stay is up to you. I have chosen

"The Boomerang Way Tourist Park"

PH: 1800 888 987,

www.boomerangwaytouristpark.com.au



The parks are all very comparable price wise but this one seemed just a bit better and it also has an extra-large camp kitchen for our after hours shenanigans.

4 Motel rooms 2 people \$125.00 PN

All prices are for 2 people

2 Open Plan Cabins 2 adults + 2 children \$135.00 PN

2 x 2-bedroom cabins 2 adults + 2 children \$155.00 PN

1 x 2-bedroom poolside villa Both bedrooms queen bed }

1 x 2-bedroom poolside villa. B/R 1 Queen B/R 2, has 2 single beds } \$190. PN

1 x 2-bedroom poolside villa B/R 1 Queen B/R 2 double }

Caravan sites are: - \$40 PN Powered. En-suite \$52 PN

I am not insisting that you stay at this park, but a discount will be offered if we have adequate bookings.

I do strive to keep costs to a minimum on trips like this, but at present I am completely discombobulated by what a dollar used to buy compared to what it does today.



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