

VINTAGE & CLASSIC

CAR CLUB BALLARAT INC.



P.O. Box 1010, BALLARAT CENTRAL, VICTORIA, 3350
www.vccc.org.au

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October 2026



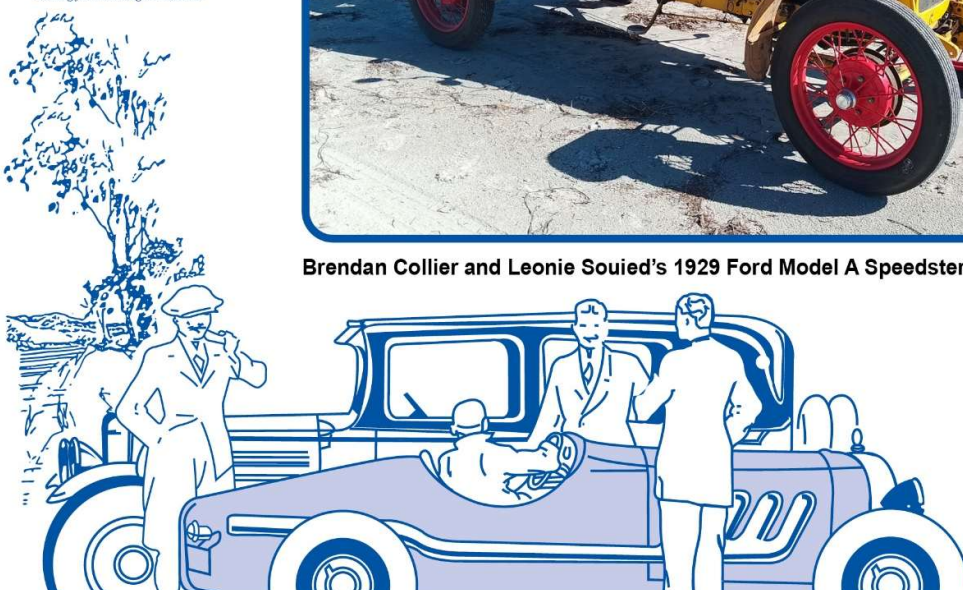
Member Club



Working for Motoring Enthusiasts



Brendan Collier and Leonie Souied's 1929 Ford Model A Speedster



CELEBRATING

6



YEARS

Meeting Start Time will be at **7.30 PM**

The next **General Meeting** will be held **Friday 16th OCT 2026**

At Ballarat North Community Centre, 702 Walker Street, Ballarat North

Life Members

Alan Firns, 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, Gordon Roberts, Bob Bennetts (Dec), Ian Watson, Mark Border and Brett Holloway

Newsletter

Articles for monthly newsletter are required no later than **5pm Tuesday 27th of Oct**

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

All contributions acknowledged.

Catastrophic Fire Rating Days

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

Club Office Bearers 2026 – 2027

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Committee

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VCCC Website – Members area password: vccc2021

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EDITOR'S COMMENT

I hope you enjoyed the September newsletter. I'm pleased to have completed my second edition and look forward to continuing to improve with each issue.

Feedback and suggestions are always welcome; they help me learn and make each edition better. Once again, Thanks to Nerene who has taken the lead in gathering articles, but the sooner she stops chasing all of us, faster she can enjoy her break.

To Tony, who has been backbone in bending and folding. Thank you.

Please send your cover page articles, past events, upcoming activities or anything matter of interest in any format, cyclostyled, calligraphy note, SMS or using this [link](#). I'm looking forward to a busy month of 60th celebrations.

Cheers! Giri Raj.

editorvccc@gmail.com

WARREN'S WORDS - From the President

Hi all and welcome to the newsletter for October,
What a huge month it's been for me and a few other members with the fit out of our new club rooms. Can I say that they are looking fantastic!

I think that the build and its finish have so far surpassed everyone's expectations. Many thanks again to all who have helped out in some way, either financially or in kind.

On another note how good has the weather been in the last couple of weeks? Now's the time to get our vehicles out of hibernation and enjoy them.

Congratulations must go to Brett Holloway for being awarded a Life Membership for the great job he does with our finances and other work around the club.

Thanks to Cyndy Allison for organising the Ladies run a couple of weeks ago - it was a great day, if not a bit scary for a few of the gentleman. Great drive in the country. Pub lunch . Got to dodge a few potholes. Great day.



The Sports Car Run organised by John & Gayle Pickering the following Sunday was another great day with a very enjoyable lap of Ballarat and a very spirited drive.

And guess what !! Got to dodge a few more potholes!

STOP PRESS

We have been approached by the Ballarat show to put on a car display at the show

It's on Friday 13th of November the day before the Bendigo swap. They would also allow us to put on a BBQ to make some money for our club. Cars need to be in by 10:30 am until 7 pm depending on the weather

More information at the next meeting If you can help with either activity please get in touch with Richard English or myself.

If you're cruising around town and got 10 minutes to spare, call into your club rooms and have look. You may be very surprised.

Anyway. Keep the rubber on the road

Cheers

- HARRY

Health Matters and Celebrations

Celebrations

Our congratulations to **Bruce Kerr** who became an OBE last month – we send our very best wishes and hope he celebrated well.

Welfare

On the sick list this month is **John Emery** - we hope he is back to good health very soon.

Bereavements

It is with great sadness we report the passing of club member, **Don McKenzie**, last month. Don had been a member for quite a few years, and even though he didn't come to meetings or go on runs, he was always interested in what was going on. He was very generous in offering buses and drivers for various trips for which we were always most grateful.

Our deepest sympathy to Jill, and their children Sue, Peter and Jenny.

R I P Don

VALE - PETER HUGHAN



Peter grew up in Hamilton, with his twin brother Laurie at the family nursery. He trained as an electrician and moved to Ballarat to work. He married Janice and they have three children. Peter then trained at the Technical Teacher's College, moving back to Hamilton to teach at the Hamilton Technical School. The Hamilton Club had just recently started and Peter was Member No. 40. Over the years he held a number of positions on the Committee. He was awarded Life Membership in 1981.

Peter was an outstanding tradesman and restored a very rare 1927 Bean 18/50 Tourer. His first major event in the Bean was to our Ballarat Begonia Rally, where Harold Paynting was photographing the Club Cars at the Lake for the James Flood Books. He was very pleased to find such a rare car for the book.

In 1973, the late Doug Palmer, Peter Lowenstern and Peter were elected President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Federation of Vintage Car Clubs of Victoria for two years. During this period, the Federation introduced roadworthy tests; applications for reduced registration fees and the production of car and lapel badges for the Federation. After Peter, Alan Firms became the Treasurer for many years and in more recent times, Brett has also held the position for many years.

Peter and Janice moved back to Ballarat and joined the VCCC with their current club car, a 1951 Citroen Lite 15 Sedan. They were very active members with Peter being on the Committee over the period of 1986-1988. When retired they moved to Ocean Grove, but still attended the main club events in Hamilton and Ballarat for many years. Janice passed away some years ago, with Peter still attending club events in his BMW Convertible, now owned by Graeme and Betty Ralph from Hamilton.

Peter will be remembered for his unique and valuable contribution to the Hamilton and Ballarat clubs, particularly in their formative years, and his work with the Federation. We send out condolences to Ree, Jane and Nic, and their respective families

- Ron Gay

Secretary's Report – Committee Notes – 22nd September 2026

Congratulations to Tony Taranto on receiving his Certificate of Appreciation for over 40 Years of work with the Newsletter. Thank you, Tony.

What an honour it was to witness Brett Holloway receive his much-deserved Life Membership. It was especially lovely to see his family could attend, including his Father Kevin who has been so unwell.

Welcome New Members:

- i) Karen Sherlock & James Overton
- ii) Ray & Nellie Richards

We hope you enjoy your time with us. Please don't hesitate to let any of us Members know if you have any questions and feel free to attend as many Club Runs as you can, as this will assist you in getting to know everyone quickly.

No New Applications for Membership for this month

A reminder about Club Run Etiquette:

This seemed to be missing at the September Club Run – Ladies Run. Some Attendees appeared to get lost because the person in front did not wait at the corners.

Please keep in mind that not every Vehicle includes a Navigator so we do rely on the Vehicles in front of us to do the right thing by keeping us in view as well as following their instructions accurately.

It also appears that some Drivers are not using the capacity of their Vehicles to ensure they are keeping up with the Vehicle in front of them; this affects the other Drivers around them who may have to slow down to keep them in view when they should not have to.

I wonder how many people don't come on Club Runs for fear of being left behind and/or getting lost. This is not fair and not a precedent we want to be setting in our Club.

Please ensure you are considering those around you when you take part in a Club Run so we can all enjoy the time together.

Name Badges

Like everything else, costs have risen with the production of the Club name badges. There are now 2 options for you to choose from,

Option 1 - \$12 comes with a clasp pin to attach to your clothing

Option 2 - \$14 for the magnet type of backing.

Please advise Membership Officer, Cyndy Allison, when ordering a new badge which option you would prefer.

Club Person of the Year

With the commencement of the new Club Year, a new Club Person of the Year box and nomination Forms will be available for you to fill out to nominate someone that has done something for you. Who knows, the person you nominate now could be the Club Person of the year in 2027.

- *Nerrida Lewis – Secretary*

CONGRATULATIONS

Certificate of Appreciation – Tony Taranto

At a Morning Tea at the Clubrooms, Vice President, Noel Trengove presented Tony Taranto with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his over 40 years work of folding and labelling the newsletter EVERY month.

Noel also took the opportunity to present Tony with a 60th Anniversary lapel badge – and also to Tony's daughter, Maria.

We had been trying to make this presentation since March, but due to Tony's health issues, it was delayed. With the help of Paul & Lynda Tracy, and at short notice, Tony was coerced to attend under the pretence of having a look at the progress of the Clubrooms redevelopment.



Present were those members of the Committee who were available to attend, and members, past and present, who had worked with Tony on the newsletter.



It was a very pleasant morning – Tony was suitably surprised and rather humble in accepting the Certificate. Many thanks to Jenny Ure and her team for organising refreshments.

- *Nerene Backhouse*

Noel and President Warren Harris giving Tony a tour of the Clubrooms – which is what the 'disguised' intention was!

CONGRATULATIONS

Brett Holloway – Life Member



President Warren Harris had the great pleasure of presenting Brett Holloway with his Life Membership Award at last month's General Meeting in the presence of Brett's parents Kevin & Helen and sister Nicole.

His application for Life Membership was nominated by Daryl Crawley and seconded by Warren Harris. Brett was born in the Club as his parents had been members since 1969; incidentally, Kevin was awarded Life Membership in March 1982. So, we now have father-son Life Members.

Brett became a member in his own right in 1991. His work in the Club started soon after as in 1992 he was Co-Director of the Begonia Rally. As an Accountant by trade, his skill has been invaluable in this field, not only in our Club but also with Federation over many, many years. He has served on numerous Committees in the Club, notably the reviews of the Club Rules and Club Permit Scheme, and currently he is on the Clubrooms Redevelopment Sub-Committee.



President Warren Harris pinning Brett's Life Member badge on.

Congratulations, Brett – a very popular Award going by the acclamation he received by those members at the meeting.

- *Nerene Backhouse*



The Holloway family – Helen, Nicole, Brett and Kevin

Cover Story

The One Wrench Special – Brendan Collier

I purchased the vehicle when I was 19 years old, thinking it was a hot rod. I didn't know much about cars back then and probably know even less now! That was 46 years ago.

I have used the car extensively over the past 46 years. I have competed in numerous rallies, hill climbs and travelled to most states in Australia both on and off road. Over the years, it has been an enjoyable car that I have been able to share with my family and friends. It has had numerous engine changes depending on the event we are taking it to.

I lent the car to a good friend of mine, Bill Fry, to take it to the Model A rally in Launceston. He took it about 6 months prior to the event to prepare it for the journey to Tasmania. When we arrived in Launceston, we were

surprised to find that Bill had modified it to suit himself and the words "One Wrench Special" on the hood. Bill loved the car so much that it took another 12 months before we could retrieve it from him.

Upon its return, I noticed that there were quite a few nuts and bolts with rounded heads and a few ill-fitting parts. I never did ask Bill where the name "one wrench special" came from but I presumed it may have something to do with the number of tools (one shifter) in his tool box.

I would probably lend Bill the car again but only when there's a couple of days left on the rego.

- **Brendan Collier**

A very early photo – taken about 40 years ago



UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER and NOVEMBER 2026

Thursday 15th Oct - Rustless Wanderers Lunch. 12 midday at the Queens Head Humffray St Nth Ballarat
Contact Rick Thege – 0428 518 770

Friday 16th Oct - Club General Meeting – 702 Walker Street – 7.30pm Please bring a plate of supper to share.

Sunday 18th Oct - Picnic at Mt Franklin.

The Vintage & Classic Car Club (Ballarat) Inc invites your car club to attend the 2026 Picnic at Mt Franklin on Sunday 18th October from about 10.30 onwards.

This is a casual picnic day with no extras or frills, no trophies, no raffles. Just a casual day to meet with other like-minded car enthusiasts. Bring your own everything. There are toilets on site, but no drinking water.

We are looking forward to meeting you at 4 Powells Ln, Mount Franklin VIC 3461. The VCCC will be leaving from near Mars Stadium 711 Creswick Rd, Ballarat at approx. 9.30am 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. This is an annual event which began before covid and hopefully will continue.

Contact Mike Simpson 0419935147 mikelynsimpson@bigpond.com from VCCC Ballarat which is celebrating it's 60th anniversary in October 2026.



Tuesday 20th Oct – Club Committee Meeting Traminer Crt Ballarat at 7.30pm

Sat-Sun 24-25th Oct - VCCC 60th Birthday Weekend. – more info, See **Page 8**

Thursday 29th Oct - John Curtin Aged Care Hostel Creswick – Residents Day - 1.00pm



This is an annual event and is very popular with the residents, we have the pleasure of taking them for a drive in the country when it looks at its best, and where some of them may have lived. We return for afternoon tea provided by the Hostel.

Directions to the John Curtin from Ballarat – Proceed down the main street of Creswick Albert St to roundabout, left for Cushing Avenue Hostel on the left.

Please arrive at 1.00 pm If you wish there is a café at the Hostel. once your passengers are onboard, please move forward to a shady spot, hopefully it will be a fine day as I have booked one. Loading may take

some time as our guests are less fortunate than ourselves, so please be patient.

All drivers may be subject to a Covid test.

I will lead the run; route instructions will be given on the day. If you haven't participated before, it is a good day come along and join us, the residents get a thrill out of going for a drive in older cars. It brings back memories to them and creates conversation, especially once they are back home.

For further information, or to let me know if you are coming, give me, **Frank Whitfield a call 0417 332 645**

Did you know?

John Curtin:

- was the only prime minister to have been in jail (as an anti-conscriptionist in 1916)
- was one of only two prime ministers from Western Australia (Bob Hawke was the other), although it was the birthplace of neither
- held no ministerial posts before taking office
- opposed conscription during World War I, but introduced limited overseas service for conscripts in World War II
- was one of the three prime ministers who died in office (Joseph Lyons died in 1939 and Harold Holt in 1967), but the only one to die at The Lodge
- neither owned, nor drove, a car
- was commemorated with the opening of Australia's first prime ministerial library:

Sat 31st October – Ladies Crafternoon at Ballarat North Community Centre. 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

Contact Jenny Ure 0409954077

Fri 6th November - Sports Car Run. Leaving from the Doctors / Centrelink car park on Learmonth Road at 6.30pm. The run will be about 60kms on bitumen roads. We will finish at a Ballarat "Maccas".

John & Gayle Pickering. 0408914943.

Fri 13th November- Ballarat Show at Showgrounds, Mount Rowan. Cars need to be in before 10.00 am and remain until 7.00 pm. VCCC to put a BBQ stall. More information at the next meeting.

Entry to the show will be free to participants

Thurs 19th November - Rustless Wanderers Lunch, Smeaton Hotel. Contact Rick Thege – 0428 518 770

Fri 20th November – Ladies Run. Leaving OP SHOP roundabout at 10.00 am. More info at the next meeting.

Contact Jenny Ure 0409954077

OUTSIDE EVENTS you may like to attend

Sat Oct 11th Colac Swap meet and Show. Colac Racecourse (See web page)

Sat-Sun Oct 31st Nov 1st Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally

Sun Nov 8th Skipton Spring Festival. Vintage and Classic Car Show. Contact VCCC member, Dale McIntyre 0428838201 for more information or see web site.

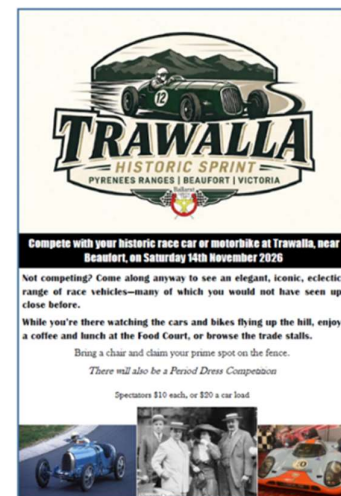
Sat/Sun Nov 14th-15th Bendigo Swap meet

Sat Nov 14th Trawalla Historic Sprint - Hosted by Ballarat Light Car Club Inc.

Spectator entry is just \$10 per head, or \$20 a car load. Uphill quarter-mile sprint featuring historic vehicles and motorbikes. A picnic style setting, food court, trade stalls, spectator viewing of the sprints, and car displays. Plus a period, dress competition so you can strut your heritage motoring finery. For more info visit <https://www.blcc.net.au/>

Keep an eye on the Facebook page for updates.

Also, see the Calendar on page 19.



VCCC MEMBERSHIP FEES - SECOND REMINDER

Thank you to all Members who have paid already, however there are many who have not yet paid!

Are you one who is still outstanding? You will have received an email from the Membership Officer as a reminder - please do not ignore!

Included in the July Newsletter was your Renewal Form, please make sure this is completed and returned to Membership Officer Cyndy Allison.

Remember that if you have a vehicle on the Club Permit scheme through the Club, you **must** maintain your membership to be able to access this scheme.

Brett Holloway, Honorary Treasurer

60th Anniversary Celebrations



Memento Items

I still have some memento items which have not been collected. If you have items ordered, please pick them up at the October General Meeting or contact Noel Trengove to make other arrangements for collection.

60th Weekend October 24th and 25th

At the time of publication of this newsletter, we are only a week or two out from our 60th weekend celebrations. We will provide any last-minute details at the October General meeting

Saturday Oct. 24th run to Scotsburn and vehicle display at Andy Burns property. A number of early club cars will be on display along with your current club cars. BYO Lunch etc. Tea and Coffee provided. Run departs Doctors/Aldi Carpark, Learmonth Rd. Wendouree at 9.30am.

Sunday October 25th Club 60th Celebratory Luncheon at Ballarat Masonic Centre, 616 Barkly St, Golden point, 3350. 11.30 am for 12 noon start. Bookings essential. BYO drinks. Off street parking available.

We encourage as many members as possible past and present to participate in some or all of the weekend activities to honour the 60 year heritage of this club and its members; which has seen the club on a continuously evolving journey to where we are today.

Please get involved and help the club celebrate its 60th Anniversary with some good times and friendship.

Noel Trengove 0400 599 707

Ken Clark 0417 524 241

Daryl Crawley 0417 351 827

Gordon Roberts 0409 773 464

PAST EVENTS

TROPHY POINTS RUN " LADIES DRIVE" SUNDAY SEPT 20th 2026

Meeting at 10am on Sunday 20 September for the second Ladies Day Run I have organised, the numbers comprised 28 people across 15 cars.

We got away on time but with a fair bit of traffic it was difficult to get onto Latrobe Street as a group. And then there was getting through the set of lights to travel west out towards Carngham.

Feeling like it was only us and the 2 cars directly behind us, I pulled up on the side of the road out near the Snake Valley turn off to get a great view of the road behind us so everyone could catch up.

We proceeded out past Carngham Station and turned off towards Streatham, and the northern part of Carranballac where the fires went through in January. It is pretty evident there is some work to be done in restoring property, and lots of fences still to be rebuilt.



But none of that stops the farmers from doing their job though. There were lots of crops growing well without fences along the roads. It was great to see that the last piece of fencing to be redone on the family farm has been completed in the last month or so. My brother said that most re-fencing had been held up by the burnt and dead trees that must be removed before re-fencing can be approved.

The thing that hits me first travelling out from Carranballac to Streatham is that the trees are all gone ... yet again. And this is the second time in my lifetime. Most were well under 40 years old as all the original trees from

my childhood were burnt out in the 1977 Streatham fire and it takes time to replant the plantations and for them to grow. For farmers what is relevant to restoring their livelihood takes priority, that's fences, stock and buildings first.

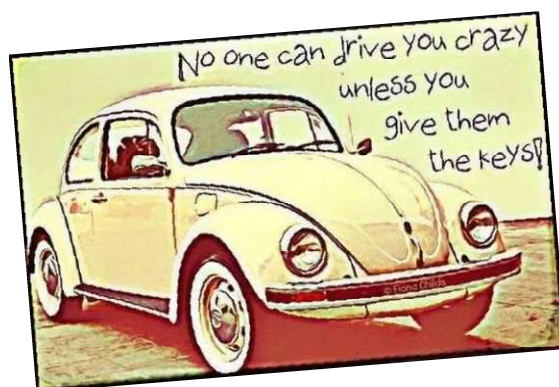
The new roundabout at Streatham is finished - it was under construction on last year's Ladies Day Run. It looks pretty fandangle, with overhead lights that look like they belong on a city street, not such a very rural area. At a cost of \$3m it should definitely have some bells and whistles. That's amazing funding considering Finch's Road on the way out to Haddon cost \$1.8m.

Turning north of the Glenelg Highway we got the canola views. On the Eurambeen-Streatham Road it was yellow in huge patches as far as the eyes could see - just beautiful. And looking ahead, the mountains in the distance were a lovely vista to drive towards, stretching from Mt Buangor across to Mt Cole.

Travelling this road would have been new for most of our group, passing the Eurambeen homestead (now like many, an events location), the bulk grain storage sites and the absolutely awesome metal Eurambeen Christmas Tree.

Participants

Linda & Ron Harris -1959 *Mark 2 Zephyr*
Jenny Ure & Rod MacDonald -1964 *Holden EH Premier*
Lyn & Mike Simpson - 1964 *Sunbeam Alpine S4*
Lyn Webb - 1964 *Holden EJ*
Nerrida Lewis -1965 *Hillman Minx*
Ruth & Damian O'Doherty - 1969 *Daimler 250 V8*
Gaida & Brendan Stevens -1986 *BMW 320i Convertible*
Leigh Ditchfield -1988 *Nissan Skyline*
Nerene Backhouse -1988 *Nissan Skyline Exec*
Joy & Alan Rogers - 1988 *Mercedes Benz 300CE Coupe*
Cyndy & Barry Allison & Karen Otto -1989 *Nissan Pintarra TI*
Jan & Frank Tamis - 1990 *Rolls Royce 8*
Barb & Warren Harris - 1998 *Mazda MX5*
Marg Giles & John Peart - *Modern Renault*
Gayle, John & Charlotte Pickering - *Modern VW*
Judy Mason - *Modern Holden Astra*



Karen commented to me on the wider road verges on the Eurambeen Road that these were set up in colonial days in the 1800s as stock was driven to better grazing areas or markets. This started to diminish 100 years ago, due to the advent of motor vehicles for transportation, but the historical verges remain along many rural stock routes such as this one.

At the northern end of the road we joined the Western Freeway 7km west of Beaufort, our lunch destination.

We identified a few potholes that may have been an issue while we were in our July test run. Amazingly, after the weather and rain since, there was not a lot of change, although the Eurambeen grain depot corner was fixed. But oh my goodness, the Beaufort merge lane was way way worse, my apologies for not adding that one to the pothole list on my directions sheet!

Lunch was a hit, the Beaufort Golden Age Sunday pub roast was pork and it was so popular that they ran out so some of our group had to reorder. After lunch, some of us popped over the road to the lolly shop, yes he had ice cream, others visited the op shop, before wending our way home.

Brendan, my thanks for picking up the role of event herder (if that's the right term), although I was informed that the reason I couldn't see all of the group behind me for a while is because they proved that if you slow down too much and don't keep the car in front in view, you might find you do a little unexplainable detour along the way, but, if that story was true, whoever went missing found us again before the Eurambeen Road.

And a big thankyou to everyone who came along and made the day such a great one, without you all it wouldn't be such a lovely day. Also, thanks to my back seat driver for giving me the correct advice on when to slow and when to proceed at normal 80km speeds to keep most of our group together. He did a wonderful job.

- Cyndy Allison

Sports Car Run – Sunday September 27, 2026.

On a cold sunny morning, 15 cars lined up for the sports car run. The cars ranged from a 1950 Riley driven by Richard English to Brian and Jan Drennan in their 2000 Mazda MX5. We also had 1 modern car on the run. The run was conducted at a fairly quick pace and the Riley had no trouble keeping up with the more modern vehicles.

We headed out the Glenelg hwy toward Smythesdale, dodging the many potholes. As we moved onto the lesser roads, there were fewer potholes. We then headed toward Haddon, then onto Cardigan Village. We then passed through Miners Rest and the outskirts of Ballarat.



Most of the farms were very green from the spring rain. The Canola crops were very colourful. We continued on our way past the White Swan, then through Bungaree and Dunnstown. Most of the roads through this area were in good condition.

We then travelled through Yendon, past Mount Buninyong and arrived at the



Espresso Depot in Buninyong. At the café, I had a phone call from Brendan Stevens to advise he had a flat tyre. With the help of Darryl Mitchell, they carried out the tyre change and met us all at the café. The run was just over 80kms. We then spent the next hour at the café enjoying some coffee and snacks plus a lot of conversation. The staff at the café did a great job looking after us and providing great service. About midday we started heading off to our homes.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the run. Our next sports car run is in early November.

- John & Gayle Pickering.



Participants on the Sports Car Run 27-09-2026.

Richard English - 1950 Riley
Darryl Crawley - 1965 Ford Galaxie
Frank & Jan Tamis - 1975 Corvette
Alan & Joy Rogers - 1980 Ford Escort Coupe
Darryl Mitchell - 1986 300SE Benz
Brendan Stevens - 1986 BMW 320i
Barry & Cindy Allison - 1988 Skyline GTS
Wayne & June Harrop - 1988 Porsche 944
Pam & Gordon Roberts - 1989 Mazda MX5
John & Gayle Pickering - 1990 Mazda MX5
Gerrard & Sally Nagle - 1996 Mazda MX5
Warren & Barb Harris - 1998 Mazda MX5
Karen Otto - 1999 Toyota Camry
Brian & Jan Drennan - 2000 Mazda MX5
Ivan & Helen Tarrant - Modern



CLUB BATTERY DRIVE

As a fundraiser for the Building Fund to help complete the new Clubrooms, the Club is continuing to conduct the Battery Drive.

We invite you to help the Club by donating your used/dead batteries –
and at the same time to help you clean up your shed space!

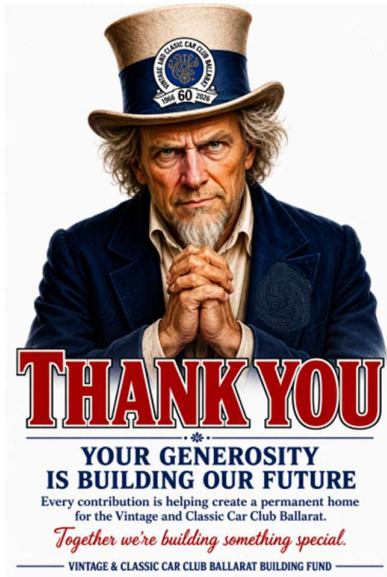
Warren Harris has kindly provided a drop off point for all your used/dead batteries.

You can take them to Warren's factory at **1 Traminer Court, Wendouree.**

He has put a pallet **BEHIND** the office building.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THEM ANYWHERE IN FRONT OF THE FACTORY
OR THE OFFICE.**

Update on Clubrooms Funding – Help Us Finish What We Started



In the August VCCC Newsletter, there was a shout out to Members – a call to action to help fund the completion of the Clubrooms development.

This was repeated in the September VCCC Newsletter, hope you noticed the different image?

Thank You for Your Support

A heartfelt thank you to all members who have contributed, I am very pleased to say that from this, \$42,617.95 has been received, mainly in monetary (cash/cheque/direct to bank). There have also been more in-kind donations, including knife sets and sharpeners, 60th anniversary stickers paid for, AGM pie night paid for, payment for a favour done by a Member. It is very much appreciated and shows that every bit counts!

However, we are still not at target, so let's keep going!

Still Want to Contribute?

There is still time!

There are still many items to be purchased, including Kitchen items (oven, dishwasher, cook top, fridge, freezer, pie warmer, cabinetry), Audio Visual items, Floor coverings, Meeting Room tables and chairs, Security system, and much more.

If you would like more specific information on items, please let me know.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to contribute, you are very welcome to do so. Please use the VCCC – Building Fund Donation form, that is attached to the email version of the newsletter or can be accessed here [contribution form](#). There has been a physical insert for the last two months, but if you need another copy, just let me know and I will get a copy to you.

There are many options - you can make a monetary contribution, either generally or for a specific cause, or you can provide Goods in Kind. You could also do a combination of all of the these!

We are getting close – and if we all work together, we can get this project complete.

If you have any questions or if you would like to have a confidential discussion, please get in touch, I am happy to have a chat and work with you.

Brett Holloway

Honorary Treasurer

Building Subcommittee Member

FROM THE LIBRARY SHELF

Ghost Railways of Australia - H4156 / By Robin Bromby / Published in 2006 / 232 Pages

Donated by Graham Lambourn (This book was his fathers!)

Over the years, we have had donated to our Club Library a few books about cars from early years up until about 1940, that were modified to run on railway lines for official use. There are also many articles in our magazine collection about early trucks and buses modified to produce early rail cars – sometimes with trailers attached. In the South Island of New Zealand there is a Vintage Model T Ford Bus that has been modified and recently restored and is being used as a tourist attraction.

All around Australia, rusty rails are gradually disappearing as weeds grow and the memories of the days when train and railcars ran across them fade. The people who worked on these forgotten railway lines, loading bales of wool into wagons, or coal into tenders of steam locomotives, has long since retired. This book evokes memories of places that are now all but deserted. Dajarra in Queensland, just a dusty settlement in the middle of nowhere, was once a rail head that handled more cattle than anywhere else in the world!



The first railway lines were built in New South Wales from 1855 and by 1870, there were a few railway lines branching out from Sydney and Melbourne. By 1930, the railway network was in all states of Australia, and reached its peak with more than 40,000 km of railway tracks. Modernisation forces caused about 9,000 km of tracks to be closed, from the 1950s to the 1980s. This excellent book is really about the railways lines that have closed; with many photos of the stations, storage sheds and equipment, as well as the early rail cars and steam trains that operated there years ago.

The book covers the importance of Ballarat and Townsville foundries in building the new early steam trains. In Victoria -

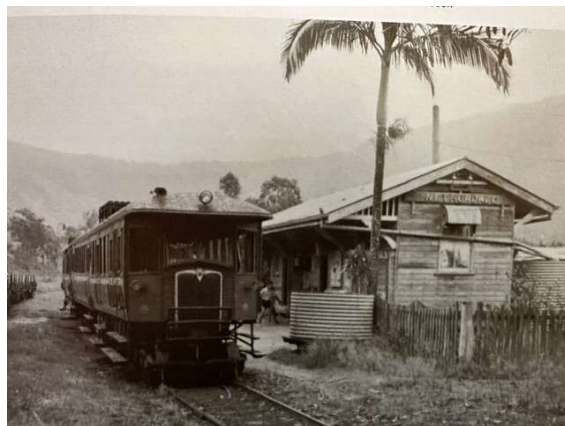
Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong were the main stations for the thousands of articles moving around the state, then arriving at their correct destination. Each station had its own individual brand.

Jack Young of Ballarat had, in 1931, obtained a licence from the Victorian Government to operate a mobile radio station anywhere in the state, so long as it was beyond a 30-mile radius of any existing broadcasters. His plan was to bring radio to country areas with no reception. He called it 3YB (Young of Ballarat) and it still exists in Warrnambool today! He used two Model T Ford buses, one carrying the transmitter, the other equipped with two turntables and a microphone.

The plan was to stay a week in a location, self-advertising and entertaining the locals, before moving on. But this was not satisfying, because of the poor condition of the roads, where the vehicles became bogged quite frequently.

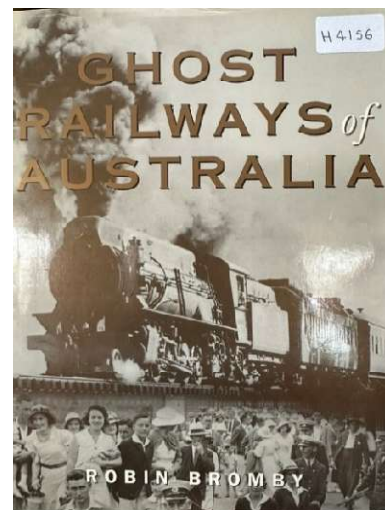
So, in mid-1932, Young leased a railway carriage from the Railways for 12 pound a week. The railway carriage became his studio with the equipment from his 2 Model T Buses, and added sleeping quarters. He also fitted a petrol motor to supply its own power supply. Two collapsible masts were instated at each end of the carriage.

The 12-pound fee included the mobile radio station being hauled on normal passenger or goods trains to travel from railway sidings all over Victoria. Jack Young operated his radio station until October 1935, when he stopped at Warrnambool and set up 3YB in a permanent building.



Thank you, Graham, for this excellent book, as well as an Australian Geographic folder on Railway Lines published by Dick Smith.

- **Ron Gay.**



Library Report for October 2026.

A 4152 Great Australian Ute Stories Ed John Bryant.
A 4157/1 the Motor Year Book 1951.
A 4157/2 The Motor Year Book 1952.
A 4158 Motor Cycle Legends Triumph by James Robinson.
A 4159 A.O.M.C. 50 years of service.
A 4160 100 years of the Motor car Punch Weekly
A 4161 Citroen D S by Malcolm Bobbitt.
A 4162 A Source Book of Veteran Cars by G.N.Georgano.
A 4163 Harrahs Automobile Collection 1903 – 1958.
A 4164 Mercedes Benz Museum by Mercedes Benz.
A 4165 Corvette by Andrew Montgomery.
A 4166 Strictly of the Record (Grand Prix Racing)
B 3995 The Book of the Velocette by Ferrers Leigh.
C 4479/46 Just Holdens Magazine Issue 46
C 7885 Beaded Wheels Magazine N.Z.

Gordon Roberts – Club Librarian.

60 Years! What happened in the beginning Reverse Gear

This is the final decade ie from the beginning in December 1966 – 1975 – again it is in reverse so best to start at the bottom of the article.

Committee Meetings were held in Committee members' homes on a rotational basis, including those in Maryborough.

Combined events with other clubs held approx. 4-5 times a year either visiting or hosting

Displays at the Ballarat Show were a big event – all in the name of getting “clues” as to where to source cars and parts thereof, and vying for members.

Membership seemed to be constant at between 80-100 with about 30-40 attending meetings. Ladies were encouraged to attend too.

This decade was all about restorations, restorations and restorations!!! No one bought a vehicle that was ready to be put on the road. Articles appeared regularly called “Movement” that updated a member's restoration work.

Members travelled miles and miles to go to Swap Meets in search of a particular part.

Regular and well supported participation in annual events such as the Australia Day Pageants in Melbourne as well as Maryborough's Golden Wattle Festivals and Ballarat's Begonia Festival Processions.

Now go down to the end and work your way back to here



1974

May – many discussions began regarding the club having its own club rooms with a motion to form a committee of 3 to investigate a feasibility of the club having its own premises. This was ongoing.

October – extra-ordinary meeting held at Sebastopol Technical School re report on the Clubrooms Feasibility Study

December - Notice of Motion presented to the General Meeting *“that the question of the allotment of funds for the continuance of the clubroom feasibility study be reopened and renegotiated”*. Moved C Carmichael seconded by G. Edward. It appears that this was a very important motion as it concerned the feasibility study, not funds towards a clubroom facility.

1973

February – the first Begonia Rally was held – it was a two-day invitation event with 50 entrants

August – a “Touring Trophy Award” established – a scoring system for attendance at runs.

November – Motion: that new members joining the VCCC will pay a joining fee of \$3 which will entitle them to a name bar of similar value. (prior to this, applicants only paid the annual fee).

1972

May – the first of the new compulsory roadworthiness checks on cars on Limited Registration held at the

Ballarat Showgrounds – checkers were Mac McCarthy, Peter Michelle and Robert Purchase. Cars not attending will not be issued with permits until the vehicle has been tested.

Club supported the Ballarat Tramways Preservation Society which was just getting off the ground.

1971

July – all correspondence to new address – P O Box 124 Ballarat East 3350 (prior to this, mail was sent to the Secretary)

1970

July – Mrs McCarthy (Dawn) – 1st female elected as a Committee member

“With the recent introduction of the Club Lapel Badge, a request for name bars should mean members will be more readily recognised.”

with the formation of a combined council of vintage car clubs, benefits . . . will help improve the situation in regards to Limited Registration etc.

April 10th International Rally – held in Australia for the first time – Sydney to Melbourne – Club member Neil Burns is an entrant

1969

August

An individual trophy will be presented to the winner of the Clubman of the Year “that they keep, as the shield is a perpetual trophy.”

July Annual Report mentions that membership is around the 85 mark – *“quite a healthy position for a club now only 2½ years old in a city renowned for people who won’t go anywhere or join anything.”*

the workload of the Editor reduced – he now only has to receive material and edit same. In future, the duplicating, sorting, stapling, addressing of envelopes, and posting will be handled by other people the two major events of the year - the Begonia Festival Procession and the display at the Ballarat Show - have highlighted the profile of the Club.

The bank balance as at 30th June 1969 - \$93.13.

May change of meeting venue to the Victoria League Rooms in the Mechanics Institute building.

Gestetner duplicator purchased – this will make the club independent with regard to printing the newsletter and other material.

April approval received for the club’s own Limited Registration in order to issue its own permits (instead of going through the VDC). A word of warning from the Editor, Bob Skewes, *“that this privilege must not be abused as the consequences could mean not only the loss of Limited Registration for you and your Club, but for all cars on Limited Registration in the State”*

February

book borrowing system has grown so much that it will be separated from the job of the Editor

1968

December

Secretary, Clive Carmichael was presented with the first Clubman of the Year Award at the Annual Dinner Dance

November

Committee decided *“that the Club will, each year, award a trophy to the person it considers does the most towards furthering the aims and objects of our club. The Clubman of the Year will be decided on the votes of the committee all of whom incidentally are ineligible for the trophy . . . to be presented at the AGM in July.”*

last meeting held at Ronaldson Bros & Tippetts canteen; moved to Greater Ballarat Associations Rooms, Ballarat Tourist Bureau, Lydiard Street North.

August

the newsletter was registered for transmission by post as a periodical which entitles cheaper postage

July the position of Assistant Secretary was created and will be included in the Constitution Annual Report *Club seems to be very firmly established with a financial membership of approx. 60 with an average attendance at meetings of 35.*

First Restoration Roundabout held – 8 members’ sheds were visited to view the progress of their works of restoring what was once considered to be *“old bombs”*.

May details of the Limited Registration rules – including, interestingly – photographs to be provided with the application!

April Committee negotiating with the VDC for permission to use club cars on Limited Registration in VCCC Events - permissions had to be notified to VDC 2 months prior!

1967

December

this month's meeting was in the form of a Dinner Dance at the Criterion Hotel, Doveton Street South (now Oscars)

November

"The news letter this month is printed for the first time on Club stationery."

membership - 45 members with 64 cars.

President, Graham Edwards, advised that preparation for drawing up the Constitution is being completed by the 3 Committee members from Maryborough, with Neil Burns as Chairman.

the first official Club Rally/Run was held on 12th November combined with the Vintage Drivers Club beginning at the Sunshine Biscuit Factory in Victoria Street. The run went to Montrose Cottage, Sovereign Hill, Lake Wendouree and the Art Gallery.



August – 50 Car Badges ordered from Pitcher Products – the badge was designed by Fred Brasse who was presented with the first badge; he later became a club member.

Club's second gathering was at the Golden Wattle Festival in Maryborough

Editorial – John Hamilton

*"Although it wasn't exactly an official event, **Saturday the 29th of July marked the first** get together of some of the mobile cars in our Club. The weather unfortunately did its best to submerge everything under three feet high and did successfully dampen everything, but the spirit of those who were brave enough to face a wind that would freeze the horns off a brass Billy-goat, in order to display their cars for the purpose of Club publicity"*

Mr MacDonald of Buninyong (current member, Rod's father) was thanked, *"for his efforts to get there – he put his very desirable T Ford ute on a trailer but when he found that his car couldn't tow it (broken tow bar or something), so as not to let the Club down, he hitched the trailer behind his open tractor and towed it all the way to Ballarat despite the rain and biting winds etc."*

(unfortunately, where or what this event was is not recorded)

21st July – this and subsequent newsletters were printed on foolscap paper

Club's first Annual Meeting was held; the Secretary, C D Carmichael explained that it was not strictly correct to call it an annual meeting because the Club was actually only 7 months old

Graham Edwards made the first moves to start a library of sorts – he asked members to bring a book that they would be willing to loan to another member for a period of one month.

June the newsletter was 5 pages, back to back, mauve print – quarto size – many articles of restoration hints, plus some members' contributions re their own restorations.

May this newsletter consisted of 3 pages, again on quarto paper, but in black print.

starting from this month's meeting, there was always some kind of entertainment organised eg. Guest Speakers, film/slide nights. Sometimes, there were visits to engineering places prior to meetings in order to help members with their restorations.

item of interest was the production of the book by James Flood Pty Ltd, and orders were being taken for same.

April the Club's first newsletter – on quarto size paper – 2 pages – the blue print has faded over the years and difficult to read. The Editor, John Hamilton states the purpose of producing a newsletter was mainly to connect with the country members who may not always be able to attend meetings, but whose interest in this hobby is just as important as those in the city. *"As everyone must realise the members of a Club are the Club by their efforts - success or otherwise can be guaranteed."*

Mr Hamilton also talks about engendering a good club spirit of helping one another. He also asks members to consider how they want the Constitution to be drawn up, and as well as looking for ideas for the design of the Club badge.

meetings were held in the canteen of Ronaldson Bros. and Tippet in Norman Street. There were 2 classified ads in that first newsletter.

1966

2nd December – the first official meeting of the club held at the Ballarat Bowling Centre in Humffray Street North (later home to the Ballarat Mail Centre) – the Club was officially formed and named – Ballarat Vintage and Classic Car Club, and its first office bearers elected, namely Mr W Walters, President; Mr C Carmichael, Secretary and Mr. B Armstrong, Treasurer. A Committee of 6 was then elected.

September – (date unknown) an informal meeting was held at the invitation of Mr Maurie Doherty, Manager of RACV at the Ballarat Branch. Another employee of RACV, Mr Bill Walters who was a vehicle inspector and technical advisor, attended also. The meeting was held at the RACV rooms at Doveton Street South in what was then known as the CAGA Buildings. According to the Minutes, there were 18 people present with 3 apologies.

Nominations were called for someone present to act as secretary for the next two meetings – Mr C. Carmichael was successful, and Mr W. Walters as acting President

It was suggested that Bill Walters and Clive Carmichael should visit the Vintage Drivers Club in Melbourne at one of their meetings with a view of the Ballarat club being affiliated with their Club

During the arranged meeting with the VDC, much discussion ensued where obstacles were discovered. Whereas the VDC did then and always has only catered for vintage vehicles, Bill and Clive felt it was probable that the proposed club in Ballarat would cater for a wider range of vehicles.

Prelude to the Club's Formation

local television station at the time, BTV6 conducted a motoring programme called *Behind the Wheel* co-hosted by Bill Walters with Director, Fred Fargher in charge

Quoting Bill at an interview, *"After a period of time, Fred approached me with a message from a viewer suggesting that a general interest motoring club be formed. It was this seed that grew to be the club as we know it. With this interest I was urged to place advertisements on BTV6 and the local radio station 3BA. There was some interest, the mainstays being Clive Carmichael and Graham Edwards. . . . I was urged by Fred and Maurie (Doherty) to continue with forming the club despite the small numbers responding."*

CLASSIFIEDS - FOR SALE AND WANTED

FOR SALE – 1929 CHRYSLER SEDAN, Engine N0 P228305 – Chassis N0 V916253P
Good condition, solid body, leather interior all original fittings Club registered 7765
Asking \$23,000.

1962 MK2 JAGUAR , Engine N0 BH53278 – Chassis N0 111572DN
2 owner car, 42,000 original miles, Sherwood Green with Suede Green Interior. Complete tool kit, Owners Manual, Sales Brochure, and comprehensive paper work From purchase new in London. Club registered 00173-H 2.4 Litre manual with overdrive
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FOR SALE
CHEV Chassis – With Front End
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FOR SALE – V6 Commodore
Motor & Trans 3.8 ltr Eco Tech -
\$500 OBO
WANTED – Sub-frame for 57-58
Hillman Minx
Phone:
Glenn – 0404 293 834

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.

A Fairy Tale – Philosophy Department

Once upon a time there was a Little Red Hen who scratched around and found some grains of wheat.

She called upon the other animals to help her plant the wheat, “I’m too busy”, said the Cow; “wrong union”, said the Horse; “not me”, replied the Goose; “there’s been an environmental study”, said the Goat.

So, the Little Red Hen planted the grain, tended to it and reaped the wheat. She then called for assistance to bake some bread. “I’d lose my unemployment relief,” said the Goat; “I get more from R.E.D. handouts”, said the Sheep; “Out of my classification and I’ve already explained the union problem”, said the Horse; “At this hour?” said the Goose; “I’m preparing a submission for the I.A.C.”, said the Cow.

So, the Little Red Hen baked some loaves of bread and held them for all to see.

“I want some”, claimed the Duck and the Sheep; “I demand my share”, said the Horse.

“No, not at all”, said the Little Red Hen, “I’ve done all the work, and I’ll keep all the bread and I shall rest awhile”.

“Excess profit”, cried the Cow; “Capitalist Pig”, screamed the Duck; “Foreign National”, yelled the Horse; “Where’s the workers’ share?” said the Goose. So, they took up picket signs and paraded around the Little Red Hen, yelling, “We shall overcome”, and they did.

Now the farmer, who heard this commotion, came to see what it was all about. “You must not be so greedy, Little Red Hen. Look at the disadvantaged Goose, the Pig, the Horse and the out-of-work Goat. You are guilty of making them second class citizens. You must learn to share”.

“Bu . . . t, I worked hard to produce that bread on my own”, said the Little Red Hen.

“Exactly”, replied the farmer, “that’s the way free enterprise works these days. You are free to work as hard as you like. If you worked at a collective farm, you would have to give up all the bread. Here, you can keep one loaf and share the others with your needy companions”.

So, they lived happily ever after.

Then a research team, having obtained a large Government grant to study the odd happenings, wondered why the Little Red Hen never baked any more bread.

(That was 50 years ago – has anything changed?)

*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 – Tuesday 27th of OCT via email editorvccc@gmail.com***

CLUB CALENDAR - OCT - NOV - DEC - 2026

For the Details of Events, see Page 7-8 - also refer to this year's 12-month calendar.

2026		What	Where	Contact	Phone	Time
OCT		Mid week Twilight Classic Motorcycle Run Club Eligible bikes only. Chris Ridsdale will text interested riders				
Sun	4th	Naked Radiator Run	Leave from Bendix Latrobe St	F & J Tamis	0475192372	10:30am
Sun	11th	Bathurst 1000				
Thurs	15th	Rustless Wanderers Lunch	Queens Head Hotel Ballarat	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
Fri	16th	Club General Meeting	Ballarat Nth Community Centre			7:30pm
Sun	18th	Club Run (Trophy Points)	Mt Franklin Picnic leave from Mars	Mike Simpson	0419935147	9:30am
Tues	20th	Committee Meeting				7:30pm
Sat/Sun	24/25	VCCC 60th Birthday	Please register if coming ASAP	Noel Trengove	0400599707	
Thurs	29th	John Curtain Run	John Curtin Hostel Creswick	Frank Whitefield	0417332645	1pm
Sat	31st	Ladies Crafternoon	Ballarat Nth Community Centre	Jenny Ure	0409954077	1:30-3.30 pm
Sat	31st	Lake Goldsmith Rally				
NOV						
Nov	1st	Lake Goldsmith Rally				
Fri	6th	Sports Car Run	TBA	J&G Pickering	0408914943	
Sun	8th	Vintage & Classic Car Show	Skipton Spring Festival	Dale McIntyre	0428838201	10am - 3pm
Fri	13th	Ballarat Show	Showgrounds, Mount Rowan	Richard English	0418355338	10am - 7pm
Sat	14th	Historic Sprint	Trawalla near Beaufort	See Website		All Day
Sat-Sun	14-15th	Bendigo Swapmeet				
Thurs	19th	Rustless Wanderers Lunch	Smeaton Hotel	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
Fri	20th	Ladies Run	Leave OP Shop Roundabout	Jenny Ure	0409954077	10:00 AM
Fri	20th	Club General Meeting	Ballarat Nth Community Centre			7:30pm
Sun	22nd	Pre 30's Run	TBA	Mark Border	0438399609	
Tues	24th	Committee Meeting				7:30pm
Sun	29th	Club Run (Trophy Points)	Reservoir Run	J&A Rogers	0412017279	TBA
DEC						
Sun	6th	Naked Radiator Run	Leave from Bendix Latrobe St	F & J Tamis	0475192372	10:30am
Thurs	10th	Rustless Wanderers Lunch	Xmas lunch at the Cattleyards Pub	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
Fri	11th	Club General Meeting	Ballarat Nth Community Centre			7:30pm
Sat	12th	Ladies Crafternoon	Ballarat Nth Community Centre	Jenny Ure	0409954077	1:30-4pm
Fri	25th	Christmas Day	Merry Xmas everyone			

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

~ Mid-week Twilight Vintage and Classic Motorcycle Runs ~

These motorbike rides **commence in October again** and run through to the end of March (Daylight Saving months). The runs are usually held mid-month on a Wednesday evening (weather dependent) to a local pub for light eats and drinks. Club Eligible bikes only.

Please contact **Chris Ridsdale on 0448 425 001** to have your phone number included on his text message invitation list when a run is happening.

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




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5333 7206

ABN: 86 604 838 006

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David Waight Club Member

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