



Goldfields
Car Club Inc.

Goldfields Gazette

Newsletter of the Goldfields Car Club Inc.

December 2025



Goldfields
Car Club Inc.

Established 1998

Registered No: A0037502W



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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 2025 - 2026

President	Jodie Wakefield	0408 254 141	jodie.wakefield2810@gmail.com
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Archivist	Faye Parry	0408 580 523	fparry100@bigpond.com
Property Officer	Wayne Harrop	0448 230 947	juneharrop@yahoo.com.au

Club Permits

Permit Officer 1	Ray Mason	0419 777 025	ray.mason@hotmail.com
Permit Officer 2	Gerard Nagle	0419 348 697	grumpysnag@gmail.com
Scrutineer	Rod Jones	0428 518 045	lillirie1926@gmail.com

Program Team

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Bill Loader	0428 519 231	sixtrees@outlook.com
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Chris O'Beirne	0417 129 373	cfobeirne1@bigpond.com
Peter Rogers	0408 171 829	peterrog415@gmail.com

Catering Team

Wayne Harrop	0448 230 947	juneharrop@yahoo.com.au
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Cover Photo

Please note could members please ask people for their consent before including them in any photos.

Newsletter Contributions

The success of the newsletter is dependent upon contributions from members. Please email me any items of interest!

Member Welfare News

Anyone wishing to inform the Club of a member's illness or welfare, please contact the secretary who will arrange for a card to be sent.

CLUB CALENDAR

See end of Gazette

Event Organisers

Please send an attendance list to the Secretary and ask someone to email a report to the Editor for the Gazette. Word format preferred.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATES ON CALENDAR. For club runs!!!!

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATION

GOLDFIELDS CAR CLUB Inc.



There could be no better time in the history of our great nation than to celebrate Australia Day next year. The true blue Aussie is a dying breed and in not too many years we will only be a memory of the good life we once lived, so let's get together and make this a special day for our car club. Forget our political turmoil, and have some fun.

As in the past couple of years we will be utilising the wonderful Clarendon Hall. Get there yourself by about 10 am or so to enjoy a bush brekky which will be cooked by our highly qualified bush cooks. After our brunch it is time to hoist the flag and express our Allegiance to it and express our true feelings about this Country in which we love and live. We will then make an attempt of singing the National Anthem. (Good luck). The rest of the day is up to you to sit and enjoy the "tranquillity of the bush" or take part in the many and varied old fashioned games that I have taken pride in, to show our true competitive Australian spirit. Of course, there will be prizes and surprises, throughout the day, so I encourage you, my dear fellow members, to partake in this special day. The only requests I make of you is (1) to please bring along your old or classic car (2) Ladies please wear your best apron & (3) some afternoon tea, cakes/slice or biscuits for us share and enjoy when the intense pressure of the competition has died down. Don't forget to put your chairs & table in the boot just in case the weather is delightful and we can sit out doors. Let us know by January meeting of your intension to be there. Or just stay home and be miserable.

If you need more info contact Frances 0448 464 500.

Coffee Run

Goldfields Car Run to Skipton.

Our destination to day was 45 minutes away in Skipton, west of Ballarat, at the green golf/bowls club at the East end of the small town.

13 members in 8 cars left the "Greyhound car park" about 9am, two joined us later. Cloudy and rain threatening skies.

We arrived at 10am at Skipton, following the VCCC in for the last 5 ks.

During our 4 1/2 hours relaxing interesting stay, we experienced drizzle from time to time and a warm coat was needed.

The Skipton Spring Festival group put a lot of work into making sure that there was plenty of food and drink vans, and gift tents/gazebos were available and busy.

Children were well catered for with bubbles, school art competitions, face painting, putting green golf and games. There was whip cracking and blade shearing.

Adult photography was on display in the Golf club. While beautiful live music rang out over the festival.

Towards three o'clock, MC/Town Crier - Dale McIntyre finished the proceedings by awarding prizes and thanks, to the good crowd, naming the lucky entrance prize, best cars, popular peoples awards, helpers, sponsors, and musicians.

Nerene Backhouse from Ballarat VCCC was awarded second peoples popular award Austin A30, and a beautifully presented red Austin 7, was outstanding out of the 43 vehicles on show.

Wayne and June	1988 Porsche 944S.
Chris O'Bierne	Falcon Ute.
Gary Armstrong	Chev Belair.
Peter Rogers	Merc 350 SLK.
Trevor and Faye	Jaguar XJS.
Bruce Kerr	1968 Morris Cooper S.
Bill and Judy Loader and Lea	1958 Merc/Benz.
Gerard and Sally	Modern 2014 Mini.
Russell and Beth	Mod.
Kevin and Bernadette	Mod.
Apol;- Steve and Julie.	
Laurie and Diane.	
and Lyle.	





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President's Report

Hi all! Last month I wrote my report from Bathurst, which was a stopover on our way to the Blue Mountains. Well, what's a holiday without an adventure to make you know you're alive, especially when it involves your vehicle? I'm sure you've all got your own car stories that almost ruined holidays – some of them have even found their way into these pages of previous issues. (Do car club people attract more of these than others, I wonder???) But have you heard the one about the Landcruiser Ute that towed a 21' caravan 1,000km from Ballarat to Katoomba over three days with only one wheel stud holding the rear driver's wheel on instead of the standard five? Nope, neither had we until Rob investigated the knocking sound to find four of them had sheared off and the shafts would not budge! What to do when you're 30km from the caravan park you'd parked the van at the day before, in a No Standing zone out the front of a primary school at 3pm on a Friday afternoon in a vehicle that needs immediate attention?

Thanks to a local Good Samaritan father doing the school pickup who stopped and gave us some phone numbers, offering his tools and driveway around the corner if needed and good ol' Uber Deliveries for bringing us replacement wheel studs only – “sorry mate, we don't stock wheel nuts!!” – from a Toyota dealership in Penrith, we very gently coaxed the lame Ute 800m around the back roads to a mechanic where we left it overnight. Then we turned our attention to how to get ourselves back to the caravan park... we'd already spent a small fortune with Uber that day so decided the fun option would be to run the 400m to the closest train station in the torrential rain LOL! I'm sure you'd all make the same choice, wouldn't you?! Then back in Katoomba, it was onto a bus back to our warm, dry caravan. Early next morning we were pleasantly surprised to get the phone call from Richard at Pitstop Service Centre to say the Ute was ready for pickup and we did the bus/train journey in reverse order, this time with no rain and much less stress.

I have to say NSW's public transport system is far easier to navigate for uninitiated non-locals like us, needing only to tap on & off with a credit card rather than needing a ridiculous Myki card like we do in Victoria!

Nicko's recent club run led us on a wonderful scenic drive through our beautiful Ballarat countryside to the even more delightful Mt. Boninyong Homestead. Our hosts Graeme and Celia (nee Scott) Burnham shared some great information with us about the history of the homestead where we toured the beautifully manicured gardens, viewing some of their car collection. I even discovered a slight personal link to the original Scott family when Graeme mentioned that the Scott's had a sheep and property connection to the Guthrie family at Rich Avon East. My great grandmother Ethel was born in 1884 on that property to her mother Caroline, who worked “in service” to the Guthrie family.

It's a bit crazy to think it's almost Christmas again. It's been a heck of a year for many, and I truly hope 2026 is more joyful and abundant for all, rich in good health and friendship. Merry Christmas to all the wonderful members of the Goldfields Car Club and their families; may you all enjoy fabulous festive celebrations, including our own at Invermay. I'm sad to be missing it this year but know it's in very good hands with the program committee in charge, ably led by Wayne, and VP Peter emceeing. I look forward to photos and hearing all about it at our final meeting of the year on the 17th!

Best wishes,

Jodi

Run Organisers Information

Members, please consider organising a Club Run or Coffee Run.

Contact any Program Team member with your proposed run/s.

Club runs are usually held on the last Sunday of each month (except January and December), starting at approx. 9.30-10.00 am, and generally include morning tea (BYO), and lunch – either BYO or at a venue.

Coffee runs can be BYO or at venues depending on itinerary and/or destination.

Please include entry costs that apply to any venues being visited.
Coffee runs are usually held on the 2nd Thursday of each month (February – December) with a 1-1.30 pm. departure time - this can vary depending on destination.

Runs usually depart from:

The School Bus Exchange / Strides Greyhound Club Carpark, Rubicon Street, Redan; or
the School Bus Exchange, Melbourne Road, Brown Hill; or
the former Master's carpark, 25-51 Learmonth Road Wendouree.

Itineraries/mud maps should be provided for participants on the day of the run (suggest 8+ copies).
Attendance lists are to be completed for insurance purposes. Pre-printed member lists are available from the Secretary at our General Meetings and should be returned to the Secretary after the event.

Code Red Fire Rating Days

Any Club Event which falls on a day designated Code Red is automatically cancelled.

Organisers of events may cancel on a Total Fire Ban Day if they consider it appropriate.

Uniform

Available at Impact Teamwear: 147 Learmonth St, Alfredton. Ph 5336 6769
www.impactteamwear.com.au

GCC's uniform includes
Embroidery to be gold/yellow thread

Ladies & Men's Polos
Black Beanies
Black Peak Caps
Stadium Jackets
Ladies & Men's Sleeveless Vests

Members should make direct contact with Impact Teamwear for pricing, and visit their outlet to try on garments, to place orders, to pay and to collect. A small deposit is payable on all embroidered items.

REPORT – Club Run

SUNDAY 23rd November 2025

CLUB Run to Mt Boninyong Homestead.

Midland Highway, SCOTSBURN VIC 3352

This is an historic homestead located in Scotsburn, built in 1884 on land first settled by Andrew Scott in 1839. The homestead was designed in the "Scottish Baronial Mansion" style by architect Henderson. It is listed on the National Trust and has local significance as a heritage-listed property.

A very well organised day under the leadership of Russell Nicholls [Nicko to his friends] commenced from the Ballarat East Bus Exchange for a picnic lunch in the gardens of Mt Boninyong Homestead.

Following our picnic lunch was the opportunity to stroll the extensive gardens.

A line up of 14 cars, following our leader Nicko who showed commendable leadership in travelling at a safe speed and selecting a safe driving route for our small convoy.

Nicko put considerable thought into planning this club run, a distance of approx. 70 kms through some beautiful undulating and picturesque countryside.

We were greeted and made to feel very welcome by the owners of the property, Graeme and Celia Burnham.

Celia is the great-great granddaughter of the property's original settlers and grew up on the Mount Boninyong property.

In 1976 she married a Riverina farmer, Graeme Burnham, and headed over the Murray River to live on a property near the New South Wales Riverina town of Moulamein.

In 1984, the Burnham couple and their three daughters moved back to the Mount Boninyong property.

Celia's father John Scott moved to a smaller property just down the road. This is a significant local heritage property and also features one of Victoria's oldest surviving gardens, originally laid out in the 1850s. Andrew Scott took up the station at 'Mt. Boninyong' which comprised 16,000 acres. Mrs. Scott was reputedly the first white woman in the area, Graeme and Celia provided a brief talk on the homestead and the family history. A standout memory is the movement of 4000 sheep from Scotsburn to Warracknabeal where the family also had property. There was also a massive movement of sheep to far north Queensland.

In the 1830's Andrew Scott walked from Melbourne to Geelong carrying his saddle and Bridle to purchase his first horse, as there were only a small number of horses in Australia at that time the price of the horse was said to equate to the value of 3 Roll Royce cars!

The visit to this remarkable property was an enjoyable and rewarding experience and we thank Nicko for his great organising.

Chris Bell



Christmas Breakup

On the 7th of December the Goldfields Car Club held their Christmas Lunch at the Invermay Sports Club. At 10.00am the catering and members of the program team met at the hall to set up with a Christmas theme. After a short time the efficient team had transformed the hall, and members and guests started arriving from 11.30am. We enjoyed catching up with fellow members. The bar opened at noon.

Soon we were all seated as catering commenced with bread rolls and butter.

Vice President Peter welcomed all, and said grace. Table by table we were served generously as to our roast choices. Next came dessert, again served as per preference.

Vice President Peter welcomed Phyllis Quick, who provided Keyboard music for a singalong, which included some carols.

A great day of fellowship for the club.

Many thanks to all who helped on the day, especially Carpenter Carvery for excellent food.

Wayne, from catering and program teams.



Club Permit Renewal Process

There are two ways to get your permit renewal signed:

Take your permit renewal form to the next club meeting for signing by the Permit Officer.

As soon as you receive your renewal notice, post it (together with a DL business size envelope - stamped and self-addressed) to the Permit Officer for signing and returning to you so that there will still be plenty of time for you to put it in to VicRoads.

Mailing address - Ray Mason - 22 Schroeders Rd - Haddon Vic 3351.

Permits can be renewed using one of the methods below:

In person at VicRoads Customer Service Centres offices – Covid rules apply.

By mailing the renewal to VicRoads, GPO Box 1644, Melbourne 3001.

By paying the renewal Online via your "myVicRoads account" see website. www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

Items of Interest

December 6th

Off the Rails Car & Bike Show
Linton Hotel

December 14th

Holden of Ages Show n Shine
Halls Gap Rec Reserve

December 14th

Xmas Toy Run from Golden Point Hotel

December 14th

Maldon Swap Meet

Maldon Recreation Reserve

December 31st
Daylesford New Years Eve Parade

February 1st
American Chrome and Coffee
9am-3pm
Kirks Reservoir

February 7th
Swap Meet
Ballarat Showgrounds Mt Rowan

February 8th
Picnic at Hanging Rock
South Rock Rd
Newham

February 15th
British & European Motoring Show
Yarra Glen Racecourse

February 18th
Festival of Motoring
Cruden Farm
Cranbourne-Frankston Rd Langwarrin

February 22nd
Gembrook Classic & Custom Car Show & Swap Meet
Gembrook Rec Reserve

April 10 -12th
Melbourne Motor Show
Melb Convention & Centre

*Help wanted, people to organise club runs
Contact Wayne Harrop 0448 230 947*



CALENDAR

December	Thursday 11	Coffee Run	No Run	
	Wednesday 17	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Club Run		No Run	
January	Wednesday 21st	Presidents Picnic	Ballarat North Gardens 5pm onwards BYO everything	
	Monday 26th	Australia Day	Clarendon Community Centre BBQ brunch 10am Start. BYO table and chairs, cakes and slices etc, to share	
February	Wednesday 4th	Twilight Run	Burrumbeet Caravan Park. BYO everything 5pm onwards	
	Thursday 12th	Coffee Run	Buninyong Golf Club Details TBA	Trevor 0408 580 523
	Wednesday 18	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Sunday 22nd	Club Run	Camperdown to see a great old bloke and his collection. Details TBA	Francis & Chris 0417 129 373
March	Wednesday 5th	Twilight Run	Picnic tea. Buninyong Gardens. 5pm onwards BYO everything	
	Thursday 12th	Coffee Run	Let's do lunch. A run to Maldon Details TBA	Brian & Noni 0490 303 105
	Wednesday 18	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
-	Sunday 23 Note change of Date	Club Run	Eynesbury market Details TBA	Bill & Judy Loader 0428 519 231
April	Thursday 9th	Coffee Run	Ballan "Elsie Rose" café Details TBA	Steve & Julie 0435 428 915
	Wednesday 15th	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Sunday 26th	Club Run	Bealiba Wander and tractor collection. Details TBA	Peter Rogers 0408 171 829
May	Thursday 14th	Coffee Run	Deme Details TBA ntia walk and coffee	Gerard & Sally 0419 348 697
	Wednesday 20 th	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	

	<i>Thursday 28th Please note change of date</i>	<i>Club Run</i>	<i>Fyansford Papermill Details TBA</i>	<i>Trevor Parry 0408 580 523</i>
June	<i>Thursday 11th</i>	<i>Coffee Run</i>	<i>Mitchel Park Collection Details TBA</i>	<i>Rex Bridges 0403 696 285</i>
	<i>Wednesday 17th</i>	<i>Club Meeting</i>	<i>Lion's Den 7.30pm</i>	
June	<i>Weekend of 27th</i>	<i>Club Weekend</i>	<i>Lets wander to Wodonga Catchup with Wodonga Car Club and enjoy climes Details TBA.</i>	<i>Francis & Chris 0417 129 373</i>
July	<i>Coffee Run</i>	<i>Thursday 9th</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>Trevor Parry 0408 580 523</i>
	<i>Wednesday 15th</i>	<i>AGM</i>	<i>Lion's Den 7.30pm</i>	<i>Election of office bearers etc.</i>
	<i>Sunday 26th</i>	<i>Club/Birthday run</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>President</i>