

# VINTAGE & CLASSIC

CAR CLUB BALLARAT INC.



P.O. Box 1010, BALLARAT CENTRAL, VICTORIA, 3350  
[www.vccc.org.au](http://www.vccc.org.au)

A0026598U

April 2026



Member Club



Rodney & Linda Featherston's 1984 BMW E30 323i

CELEBRATING

6



YEARS

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

The next **General Meeting** will be held **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 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 and Mark Border

### Newsletter

Articles for the **May 2026** newsletter are required no later than **5 pm Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

All contributions should be in MS Word with photos in JPG format and emailed to [npbackhouse.a30@gmail.com](mailto:npbackhouse.a30@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 2025 – 2026

President	Wayne Lineker (Jhoy Oga)	0437 612 809	wayne.lineker@hotmail.com
Vice president	Warren Harris (Barbara)	0417 590 760	wharris28@bigpond.com
Secretary	Nancy Jackson	0408 583 174	bobandnancyj@gmail.com
Treasurer	Brett Holloway (Kirstin)	0418 503 541	brett.a.holloway@gmail.com

### Committee

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Publicity Officer	Noel Trengove (Glenis)	0400 599 707	ntrengove@live.com.au
Committee	Mike Simpson (Lyn)	0419 935 147	mikelynsimpson@bigpond.com
Committee	Richard English (Anne-Marie)	0418 355 338	renglish51@gmail.com
Committee	Jenny Ure	0409 954 077	jennyure@gmail.com

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Membership Officer	Cyndy Allison (Barry)	0439 696 050	membershipvccc@gmail.com
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AOMC Rep 2	Ruth O'Doherty (Damian)	0419 894 001	erw42@hotmail.com
Permit Officer	Richard English (Anne-Marie)	23a Raglan St. Sth Ballarat 3350	0418 355 338 renglish51@gmail.com
Assist Permit Officer	Ian Watson	305 Barkly St Bunninyong 3357	0419 020 140
Assist Permit Officer	Noel Trengove (Glenis)	6 Arrandale Ave Alfredton 3350	0400 599 707 ntrengove@live.com.au
Asst Permit Officer	Daryl Crawley (Jenny)	7 Charles Scorer Court, Magpie 3352	0417 351 827 daryl.crawley57@outlook.com

**VCCC Website – Members area password: vccc2021**

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## EDITOR'S COMMENT

Welcome to the April issue of your newsletter – hope you all had a happy and very safe Easter. Andy has some really positive news about the Clubrooms redevelopment – see page 9 for the update. I hope you enjoy the next Reverse Gear on page 11 covering the decade 2005 – 1995. Being April, our thoughts reflect on Anzac Day and of those who sacrificed so much for the life we have today.

### *Lest We Forget*

*Nerene Backhouse, Editor*

#### **Health Matters and Celebrations**

Our congratulations to **Frank and Jan Tamis** who celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary last month and to **Warren and Barbara Harris** who have celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

**Bob Cole and Julie Le Marshall** announced their engagement last month – such great news and our heartiest congratulations to them.

#### **Welfare**

It's been great to see **Kevin Holloway** up and about again – let's hope he can stay that way. We send our very best wishes to **Brendan Jeffrey** as he struggles with ongoing health issues and wish him better days ahead.

Whilst on the Jeffrey family – **Margaret** is also on the sick list, so our thoughts are with her too.

**Bruce Kerr** is now in recovery mode following an operation to repair his foot – it's just going to take time.

**Peter Rogers** is now recovering from a stay in hospital following a hip operation.

**Both Phyllis Eason and Tony Taranto** have also spent a short time in hospital, but are now home and getting back on track.

Our Librarian, **Gordon Roberts**, has also had some time in hospital following heart issues. We certainly wish him a speedy and full recovery.

How is everyone else going? We do hope you are managing as best as you can – as always we are thinking of you and hope your days get better and better.

#### **Bereavement**

We sent our condolences to **Peter & Michelle Cvirn** and **Rick & Jo Cvirn** on the passing of Peter and Rick's mother, Mary Borowicki last month.

#### **From the President**

Hi all,

For me and quite a few other members of the club, we have had another exciting month, starting with a visit to the RAAF Museum at Point Cook - very interesting, and the longest serving RAAF base in the world; great work Brendan.

A great afternoon at the movies thanks to Andy Burns who then donated \$925 of the proceeds to the Building Fund - thank you Andy, very much appreciated.

Then we went to the Federation Picnic at Mortlake - I think the fuel prices kept a few away, but we had 11 cars attend and plenty of other nice cars were there to drool over, and most of us won a raffle prize - great day Federation and well done, MC Brett Holloway.

Mike Simpson sent me a picture of the piles being concreted on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, so we are off and running with the club rooms - great news.

More great news is that Gordon Roberts and Bruce Kerr are going well and getting better every day.

Anyway, happy motoring,

*Wayne Lineker*



## **AROUND THE TABLE AT COMMITTEE – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

#### **New Member Applications.**

No new Applications have been received.

#### **Code Red Fire Rating Days**

Clarification from the CFA is being sought as to the current ratings and how this would work for our events and runs in the event of a Catastrophic fire rating. The newsletter notice will be changed to reflect these changes.

#### **Bendigo Swap – Volunteers needed**

The Bendigo Swap will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November this year, and there are a lot of roles that require volunteers.

Shifts are generally 2 hours long, and volunteers get free refreshments along with a quiet break space. There will also be Federation's 50<sup>th</sup> commemorative badge for all volunteers.

For each shift the volunteer receives \$10 to cover their meal, and the Club they represent receives \$20 donation for each shift.

The list for volunteers will be at the front table each meeting, or ring/email the Secretary with your details, your name, postal address, email address, telephone, preferred shift – day and time.

### **Historic Winton Bus Trip – 31<sup>st</sup> May**

Brendan is unable to organise the bus trip to Winton this year, so a request goes out to members who would be willing to organise the day. Please let our President know if you are available to take on this task. We will also need names of those interested in going at the next Club meeting.

### **Club Person of the Year Trophies**

The wording on the trophy has been changed from Clubman to Clubperson. An order for the next 10 has been placed with the supplier for more to be cast. When we receive them, they will need to be polished. If you would like to volunteer for this job, please contact Mike Simpson and he will give you all the information.

### **Club Person of the Year**

As we get closer to the Annual General Meeting, a reminder to all Members to nominate someone who has gone the extra mile for you. Put in your nomination whilst the deed is still in your mind. Come the end of the year, you won't remember why you wanted to vote for someone. And who knows, the person you nominate could well be Club Person of the Year at the 2026 AGM.

### **Club Run Etiquette**

Runs where travelling in a group, such as monthly Club Runs - the leader can't see what is happening with cars further back in the group. If everyone keeps the car in front and the car behind in view, then no one should get lost or miss a turn, and we should all end up at our destination in a happy frame of mind. Ideally slower cars should travel at the front of the group, so that the speed of the run is at their pace. We are still hearing comments after a run that someone got lost, didn't take a change of direction etc. because they couldn't see the car in front of them. It's not rocket science!

Here's another sign off from one of the regular contributors to the newsletter from the past - The Rev. Rhook from "Rock Bottom" Springmount, regularly delivered "*Sermons from the Mount*" which were very entertaining and a great read.

*Nancy Jackson,*  
Secretary

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

We have pleasure in welcoming the following new members to the Club:

- i) Andrew (Drew) and Ann Jessop and
- ii) Joanne and Richard McCutcheon

A warm welcome to you all, and we hope you enjoy your time with us.

### **Cover Story – 1984 BMW E30 323i**

For as long as I can remember I have always had a interest in cars, trucks, and farm machinery. It was in about 1991 I bought a 1988 BMW K75 motorbike and it was from here I developed an interest in BMW cars. It was in January 1993 after looking at several BMW E30 318i, that I came across a BMW 323i at Brighton Mazda.

At this stage I called Brighton Mazda and was put through to the sales man called Paris. After a few questions he said he would meet me at the BP servo in Melton that evening (he had the paperwork filled out before a deal had been struck). I knew this was the one. After a few phone calls the next morning, I found the car was a little special as it was not sold through a dealer but it was an Australian delivered car with euro specs - hence the original owner.

My BM has had 3 owners; I brought BM with 108,000km after trading a 1992 Diahatsu Foroze about 7 months old. Now for the interesting stuff - the first owner was Bang & Olfson Aust (a German Company) followed by a lady in Keillor then myself.

The BMW is a 1984 E30 323i 4 Door sedan - specs as follows:

5 speed manual

Cruise Control

Air conditioning

ABS Brakes (not available in Aust)

Electric Windows all 4 and sun roof

Cut pile carpet and black cloth trim and extra sound deadening (not common for its year)

Bilstein suspension



All very basic in today's terms - it has had some paint work done but not a full respray. Over the years of owning the BM when I was a member of the BMW Car Club of VIC, I competed in some motorsport events and state BMW Show and Shine and won best E30 2004 and 2005.

To date, my BM has travelled about 260,000km and in this time has not let me down; time permitting I plan to do more club runs in it.

Thank you for reading my BMW's story.

*Rodney Featherston*

### COMING EVENTS – April - May 2026

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

#### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Rustless Wanderers Lunch – National Hotel Clunes**

Make your own way there – Lunch is at 12 noon – RSVP Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

**Contact Rick Thege – 0428 518 770**

#### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Club General Meeting – 702 Walker Street – 7.30pm**

Please bring a plate of supper to share.



## **Tombstone Tour No. 8**

### **April Club Run (Trophy Points)      Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup>, 9.00am**

Since 2011 the April Club Run has been a biennial Tombstone Tour (except for 2023), this year's being the eighth. This is always an unusual but interesting run which tours the region stopping off to look at our country cemeteries. Through Barb Harris's research we will tell you of the unique features of each site.

In planning this year's event we are mindful and considerate of the current issues relating to fuel and the distance has been reduced somewhat.

Those that have been on previous runs will attest to this event being an eye opener exploring places and our history that most would not normally visit.

Please bring morning tea and lunch to have along the way.

Departing **Karingal Flooring Xtra (Karingal Carpets)** Creswick Road. at **9 am sharp**.

*Make sure you visit more than one cemetery in your life.....Come join us on the run.*

*We look forward to seeing you there.*

**Contact Noel Trengove – 0400 599 707 or Barbara Harris – 0407348 277**

#### **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Club Committee Meeting – 1 Traminer Court Wendouree – 7.30pm**

**NOTE - CHANGE OF DATE**

#### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April – Ladies Crafternoon – 1.30pm – 4pm – Ballarat North Community Centre**

#### **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Lake Bolac Campout**

This year, the Campout does not clash with Ballarat's Heritage Weekend, so it would be a good opportunity for those who are usually connected with that to come and experience the relaxed atmosphere at the Campout.

You can choose whether to stay the whole week, or the weekend, overnight or any part thereof that fits in with your time. The Campout is open to any members with caravans (vintage or modern, doesn't matter), motorhomes, campervans, camper trailers, tents, swags or whatever – even the back of your ute!

The Campout is held at Picnic Point - not at the local Caravan Park - about a kilometre further around the Lake, and within walking distance to the town centre.

The central focus of the Campout is the camp fire so that we can all congregate and mingle together (wood is supplied so you don't need to bring any). There is no on-site power but there is power in the amenities block as well as the undercover barbeque area, for charging devices (not connecting to the caravan).

There are no actual camp fees as such, but a \$10/night contribution into the Donation Box is a sign of our appreciation for the work involved in the upkeep of the site. The site is managed by a Foreshore Committee and is not under the jurisdiction of Parks Victoria – hence no funding. The camp fee donation helps pay for such things as petrol for the mower, toilet paper and cleaning products plus other incidentals.

Many caravans now have their own showers, but should you wish to use the camp site facilities, a \$5 coin-in-the slot token is available for purchase from me at the camp site which helps the Committee to pay for the gas and the water.



The Campout has been held for over 50 years, and other district Clubs are invited to join us. As is tradition, for those who wish to, we usually go to the local Hotel for tea on Friday night – bookings are essential – through me. I need to let the Hotel know numbers by the lunch time on that Friday so by the 15<sup>th</sup> of May – 0427 348 060.

For further information, contact **Nerene Backhouse 0427 348 060**

#### **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Rustless Wanderers Lunch - TBA**

Make your own way there – Lunch is at 12 noon – RSVP Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May  
**Contact Rick Thege – 0428 518 770**

#### **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Club General Meeting – 702 Walker Street – 7.30pm**

Please bring a plate of supper to share.

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Club Run (Trophy Points) – Day Trip to the Campout at Lake Bolac**

Departure details next month

#### **Sat-Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> May Heritage Weekend Display** in closed Camp Street both days.

Details - **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Pre 30's display** of 35-40 vehicles.

Theme is Industry in Ballarat so any vintage cars or trucks will be great.

There will be traction engines and historic stationary engines also running in Camp Street.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May - Post 30's through to 1980's** - display of approximately 70 vehicles including motorbikes - again in the closed Camp Street

**Please contact Brendan – 0409 018 867** if you can assist with a vehicle on either or both days

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May Winton** – Bus trip to Historic Car Races – Brendan is looking for someone to organise this.

#### **Outside Events You May Like to Go To**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April Valiant VE-VG gathering at City Rowing Club from 9am

Sat-Sun 2nd-3<sup>rd</sup> May Lake Goldsmith Steam and Historical Vehicle Rally

#### **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**



Thank you to life member Ron Gay for his 'Reflections' presentation at the March meeting. Amongst other memories Ron presented the evolution of Newsletters over the decades through Fordigraph printing to today's colour copying and highlighted the various cover designs that have emerged over the 60 years. Most interesting! For April's meeting we have Reg Rhook presenting his reflections. Older members will remember Reg's humorous writings in Newsletters under the banner of "Sermon

from the Mount". Look forward to another entertaining presentation.

Planning for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour (end of May/early June) continues with some 'special' venues being organised to visit. By the time you are reading this we hope to have arranged a catch up with those who registered their interest to chat about the logistics of the event.

Commemorative items will be available to order from May through June so look out for the order form in the May Newsletter.

Planning is also continuing for the 60<sup>th</sup> Celebration weekend over October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> with venues being finalised, so make sure you pencil this in on your calendar.

Noel Trengove 0400 599 707 Mal Bandy 0438 356 999 Ken Clark 0417 524 241



**Club Run (Trophy Points) to RAAF Museum at Point Cook – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**

The cool autumn morning that we knew was going to lead into a warm almost summer day greeted our starters for the trip to the RAAF Base at Point Cook. Thirteen cars gathered at Brown Hill Bus Exchange and got away on time at 9am to pick up five more travellers at Buninyong. Many people car-pooled for company and economy. The anticipation of the improving day had all the convertibles with their tops down and the temperature was already into the 20s when we stopped at Meredith to gather the group together.

From Meredith, we headed for the coast via Geelong and the M1 freeway to eventually get to the RAAF Base main gate. A couple of our intrepid travellers may have missed a turn but soon realised as Port Phillip Bay loomed closer. It didn't matter as we all lined up and produced Photo ID to get through the security checks to get onto the Base.

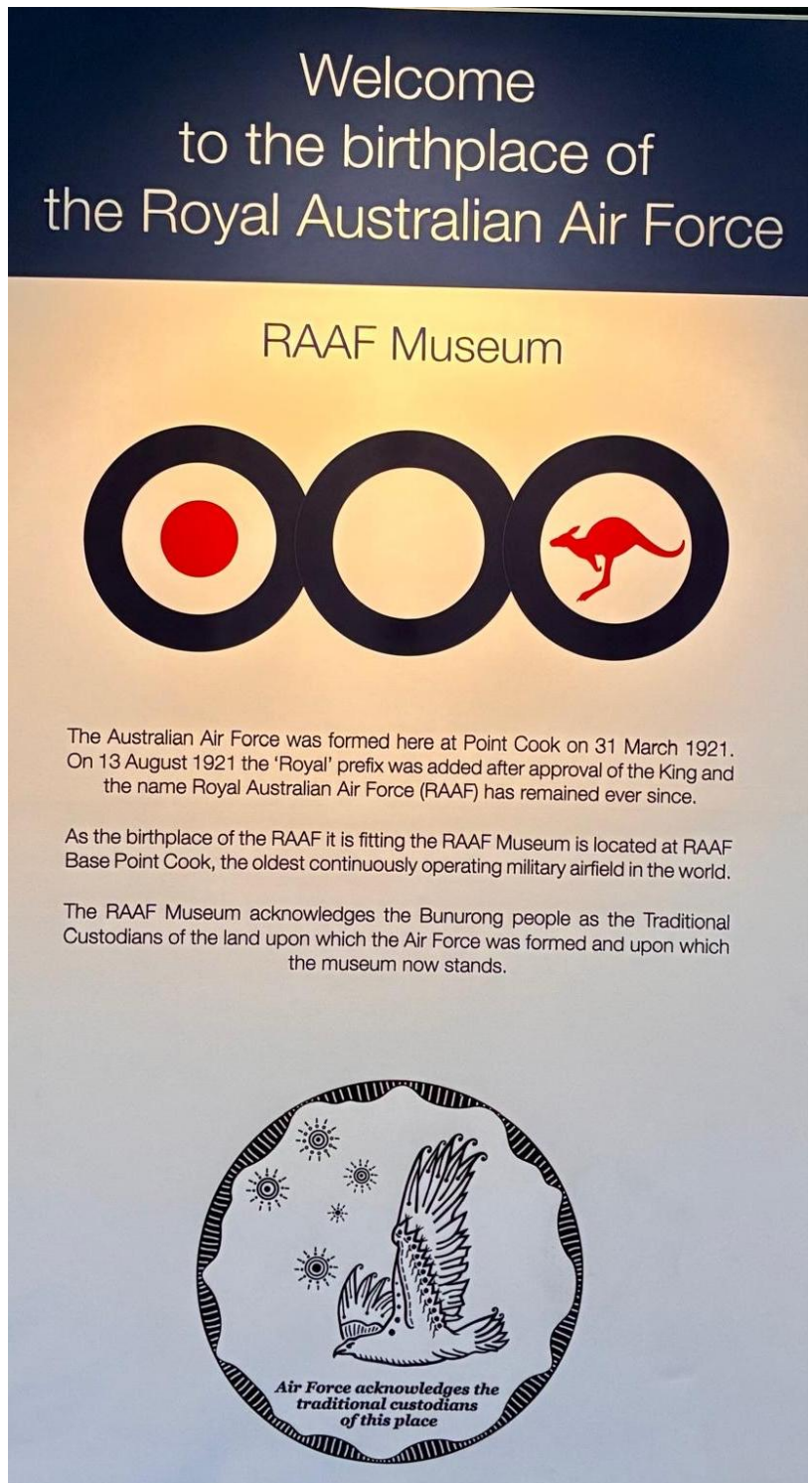
We decided to have lunch a bit early in the shaded Picnic area adjacent to the Museum and at around 1:20 a couple of RAAF volunteer guides came over and introduced themselves and divided the group into two halves and started our tour at different ends of the 3-building museum structure. The Museum is divided into Historical Planes and equipment, a Gallery of information, images and items from the origins of the RAAF to current times and lastly a huge hangar full of planes that were constructed in Australia over the last 100 years.

Some people stayed with the Tour guides, others stayed back and read and still others did the whole again in reverse. The marvels of aviation engineering that have developed since WW1 to now are astounding. The cut down fuselage and all types of motors on display remind us of what great ingenuity early aviators were. The frail wooden and canvas structure of WW1 planes make you wonder how they were ever controllable in flight. By WW2 we see fast radial and RR engined fighter planes that were being built as fast as they were being shot down. Then by the 60's jet fighters and unmanned aircraft were capable of Mach 2 speeds.

It's ironic that humans seem to peak at their production of machinery at wartime and it was a bit sad to remember how much Australians used to manufacture in their own country compared to today. Oh well, hopefully we will recover from the current turmoil and come out better on the other side.

By mid-afternoon it had really got warm and humid and after a chat people dispersed in several direction to get back to Ballarat. Some via Geelong, others Bacchus Marsh and several via Werribee Melton. The RAAF Base is very well done and organised and free to visit. For some of our club members it was also a trip down memory lane as they had National Service in RAAF and had other reasons to visit the base over the years. It's a great way to fill a day.

*Brendan Stevens*



## Attendees – to the Point Cook RAAF Museum

1963 Ford Fairlane	Ross Oliver & 4 passengers
1964 Ford Zodiac Mk III	Colin & Laurelyn Hill
1964 Sunbeam Alpine S4	Mike Simpson
1966 Rover P5 Mk III	Merv & Maree Sherlock
1970 Ford Falcon 500	Wayne Lineker & Jhoy Oga
1984 Mercedes Benz 380 SE	Frank Whitfield & Nerene Backhouse
1988 Jaguar XJ6	Giri & Yogitha Raj
1988 Nissan Skyline GTS	Barry & Cyndy Allison
1999 Jaguar XJ8	Brian & Jan Drennan
2000 Mercedes Benz C200	Karin & Graeme Johns

Modern - Mark Border & Graeme Bell, Rod & Diane Gardner, Ron & Jenny McLean, Carl & Ernie Peucker, Ron Damen & David Gold & Tom Quinlan & Graham Lambourn, Nancy Jackson & Brendan Stevens, Peter & Judy Fitzgerald, Ian Watson & Judy Mason



Our tour guides (in the background) giving us instructions for the tour



## Federation Picnic at Mortlake – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Firstly, thank you to the Federation, Brett Holloway and his Committee for all their hard work to make sure everyone had a lovely day.

This was my first time attending the Picnic and I'm sure it won't be the last. The weather could not have been more perfect. The Park and Lake were an unexpectedly pleasant destination.

There were a small group of the Ballarat cohort who turned up to our meeting place and travelled together at a good pace to Mortlake.

The destination was well set up - friendly staff greeted us at the gate and directed us to our parking spot. We arrived probably about 11am so of course we made a beeline for the Coffee Van as soon as we got settled. The CWA ladies had a lovely spot set up near the Lake selling beautiful homemade goods to tempt us with.

Even if we had not thought of what we might like for lunch we had no choice once we smelt the snags cooking to make our way to view the goods in the food tent. To accompany all this deliciousness was a live Band who played a pleasant, interesting array of eras for all to enjoy.

Oh, I suppose I should take my mind off food and Coffee and mention the cars! There was a great range of cars, some more spectacular than others, depending on your taste. Everyone seemed happy to be out enjoying the beautiful weather in a great environment with such lovely vehicles to admire.

Congratulations to all those who won prizes either for their vehicle or an entry prize. Thanks to all who attended for making it such an enjoyable day and to Brett and his Team for a job well done.

*Nerrida Lewis*



Wayne Lineker, Lyn Simpson, Daryl Crawley, Logan Gardiner, Mike Simpson, Anne-Marie English and Jhoy Oga



Richard English, Barry Allison, Ron Damen, Nerrida Lewis

**Attendees at the Mortlake Picnic**

1929 Rolls Royce 20HP  
 1932 Chevrolet Roadster  
 1954 Bentley R Type

1956 Austin A30

1964 Sunbeam Alpine S4  
 1970 Chrysler Valiant 2 door  
 1976 Holden Torana H/Back

1986 Mercedes Benz 300 SE  
 1989 Nissan Skyline GTS  
 1997 Ford Falcon JGS H/Top

1997 MGF

Rick Thege & Heather Gingell  
 Brett, Kevin & Helen Holloway  
 Damo O'Hennesy & Roy Littlehales  
 Nerene Backhouse & Nerrida Lewis  
 Mike & Lyn Simpson  
 Ron Damen  
 Wayne Lineker & Jhoy Oga & 2 grandies  
 Daryl & Barb Mitchell  
 Barry & Cyndy Allison  
 Daryl Crawley & Logan Gardiner (picture – right)  
 Richard & Ann-Marie English



Haven't seen this in the club for a while – start 'em early Daryl!



Daryl's Goss and Ron's VF Valiant



Brett Holloway (right) making presentations

**Clubrooms Redevelopment – Update #25**

This month has finally seen the start of the build.

All footings have been completed, screw piles successfully installed and the foundations have been inspected and passed with flying colours.

The first concrete trucks arrived on site on 31<sup>st</sup> March, (pictured right) and prior to Easter we craned all the steelwork into place, and have started to bolt the frame together.

I am hoping the building will be free-standing by mid-April – we are still waiting for a Powercor Permit.

Anyone can drive down and have a look but please do not enter the site under any circumstances.

Once the building is up, we will install all the plumbing, then have the floor concreted.

*Kind regards,  
 Andy Burns*



**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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April 2026

**Rolls-Royce Ultimate Model Guide Bookazine 1904 - 2023**

From the Publisher of Rolls-Royce & Bentley Driver Magazine

Published in 2025

130 Pages

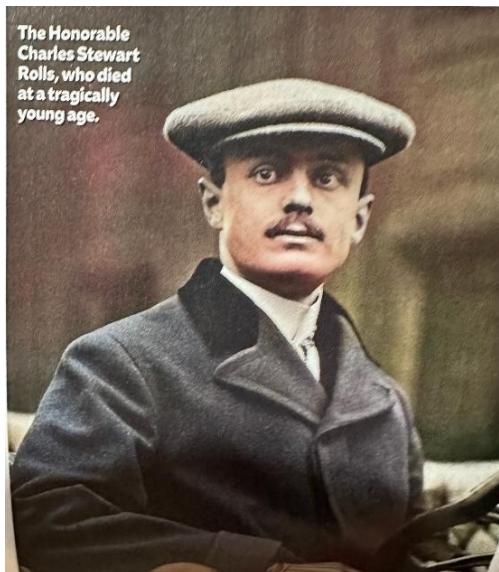
In 1884, Frederick Henry Royce established his company of FH Royce and Co in Manchester (UK) and had progressed from making domestic electrical items, dynamos, electric motors, and cranes by the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. His first foray into motoring came in 1902 when he purchased a De Dion-Bouton Quadricycle for his own use. Not happy with the quality of this vehicle he replaced it with a Deauville in 1903, but then decided to build his own car. He then built a 10HP two-cylinder car based on an improved version of the Deauville. Two more cars were built and proved to be very good cars, named as the Royce cars.

At the start of 1904, the Honourable Charles Stewart Rolls was a 25-year-old member of the British gentry and one of the UK's foremost motoring pioneers; he'd bought his first car – a Peugeot 3.7 HP Phaeton, in October 1886. By 1903, he had set up a showroom in London, selling new Peugeots, Panhards and Minervas to quality customers. Charles Rolls travelled to Manchester to test drive the new Royce car, that was not on the market. The outcome of this was a decision to set up a new company called Rolls-Royce Cars from the first 10HP model of 1904 to the best latest all-electric Spectre Coupe introduced to the market in 2023. The history of the Rolls-Royce Company is like no other. Praised from the start for its excellence of engineering, this is the marque that has crafted some of the finest cars in the world, throughout more than 120 years!

The Rolls-Royce Company provided transport to royalty, dignitaries and, of course, the rich and famous, during that time.

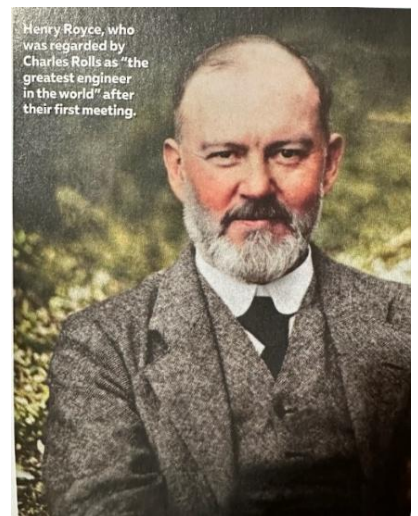
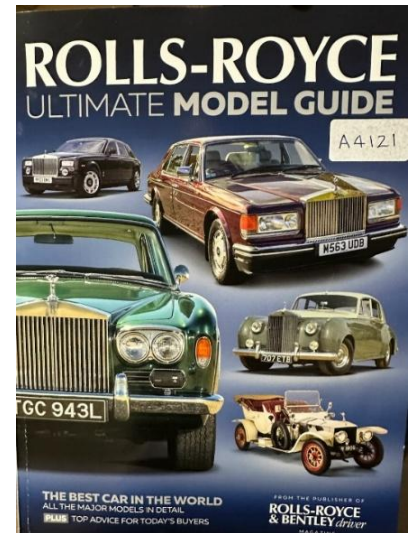
This Commemorative publication pays tribute to every generation of production of Rolls-Royce Cars from the earliest cars to the current line-up, with extended features on the most popular classics – from the iconic 40/50 *Silver Ghost* to the ever-popular *Silver Cloud* of 1955 to 1966 and the SY/SZ generations of the 1960's onwards.

For anyone interested in acquiring one of today's most popular classics (period or modern), there are individual buying guides for the 20HP Series, *Silver Cloud*, *Silver Shadow*, *Silver Spirit*, *Silver Seraph* and *Phantom V11*. Also, for anyone who revels in nostalgia, there is an array of period adverts and brochures, plus a tribute to a range of both well-known and long forgotten Rolls-Royce movie cars. There is also a chapter regarding Eleanor Thornton, who was widely acknowledged as the model for the "Spirit of Ecstasy" radiator mascot and her connection with Rolls-Royce cars.



The Honourable Charles Stewart Rolls, who died at a tragically young age.

Ron Gay



Henry Royce, who was regarded by Charles Rolls as "the greatest engineer in the world" after their first meeting.

Of course, the history of the Rolls-Royce Company was always more than cars with their production of aero engines for many years. Due to the huge expenses in developing the RB-211 engines for the Lockheed Tristar aeroplanes, the company went bankrupt, despite the car division still being successful in 1971. The two parts of the Company were separated and the car divisions continued, but ultimately the Rolls-Royce cars and Bentley cars were sold off to BMW and Volkswagen in a very unusual series of moves over a number of years.

This bookazine covers this period in a very detailed way, as well as celebrating more than 120 years of Rolls-Royce car automotive perfection in this excellent new addition to our Car Club Library.

## 60 Years! What Happened When . . . . Reverse Gear – 2025 - 1966

The decade to focus on this month is the 2005 – 1995

**July - August 2005** - A significant 'trek' was undertaken by Bob & Joy Bennetts (both dec) in their 1938 Pontiac and towing a small trailer, Graeme & Val Harris in their 1928 Chev, Warwick (dec) & Judy Bromham in their 1934 Wolseley and Allan Giltrap (dec) & Ina Chadwick in a Toyota Coaster Motorhome across the Nullarbor – a great effort.

**August 2004** ideas were suggested for heating and cooling the clubrooms

In the August 2004 newsletter, Daryl Crawley, as Secretary, reporting on notes from the Committee meeting wrote,

*“At the risk of being controversial, Daryl suggested that the current building may be heading towards its “use by” date and that perhaps we should look at whether or not it is suitable to continue to serve our needs well into the future. This comment was not to be taken as derogatory to those who have worked so hard on the current Clubrooms over the years and was merely raised to stimulate discussion as with the continued growth of the library, the need for additional storage and the limitations of the current building and site, we may need to address this issue in the long term.”* And here we are 22 years later doing just that.

**During early 2000s** - many interesting articles were written by members who wrote their “Profile” ie the story of their interest in cars and the cars they have restored and owned/driven – a most interesting read.

**Late 2000** - following the annual inspection of the kitchen by the health department, many improvements/ refurbishments were required which were finally completed in late 2002.

**Life Memberships** awarded to – Paul Seager in 1997 and Bill Whitford in 2001

**Mid - Late 1990s - Membership** = 220 – 270; average attendance at meetings = 80 – 100;  
average attendance (vehicles) at runs/events = 40 - 45

**End 1999** Fire proof room to house the library books completed

**Club Permit Scheme** - vehicle inspection days were held once a year where it was compulsory for vehicles to be inspected every two years. Inspections were carried out by designated Club officials. Under this restrictive system back then, in order to use a CPS vehicle, the club had to designate a run as a club event, called a Test Run.

LHD vehicles were unable to go on the Permit Scheme until October 1998

**1999** – Roadworthy Certificate was now mandatory when applying for the Permit Scheme, although the VCCC had made it a requirement for Club members.

Federation devised a new Club Permit Scheme & Policy document which was adopted by the VCCC on 18<sup>th</sup> March 1999. In 2003, replica vehicles became a CPS issue.

**December 1996** 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrated – President at the time, Geoff Herkes, wrote in the newsletter: *“Perhaps these celebrations gave you the opportunity of reflecting on the past; trying to project into the next 30 years is rather daunting”* And here we are . . . . that 30 years later!

**March 1996** Club made a float for the Begonia Festival Parade

**June 1995** New Position created at Committee - Assistant Librarian

**From Mid 1990s** – some very amusing articles of good-natured banter back and forth between

Rev Rhook's *Sermon from the Mount*

Clive Carmichael

Ian Clarke

Geoff Herkes' *Torquing Horses* – signed off by Wheel Wobble

Bob Eason – aka T.B.F.M. (True Blue Ford Man)

But then political correctness intruded and became obstructive - taking away that tongue-in-cheek pleasure - they wouldn't get away with it now – more's the pity! If only we could enjoy that fun again. Yes – I can see all you oldies breaking out in smiles at the memory!!!!

**Fundraising Events** - each year a lot of events eg car shows and displays etc to help defray membership fees; there were also many displays for charity events each year – the decade was very busy and always well supported by members.

To finish off – some wise words from a past President, Rob McGuire in November 1995 -

*“It is never too late to learn, but we sometimes learn when it is too late”.*

Something from previous newsletters that you might find amusing –

### **IF MY BODY WAS A CAR**

If my body was a car, this is the time I would be thinking  
about trading it in for a new model.

I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish  
and my paint job is getting a little dull;  
But that's not the worst of it.

My headlights are out of focus and it's especially  
hard to see things up close or at night.

My traction is not as graceful as it once was – I slip  
and slide and skid and bump into things,  
even in the best of weather.

My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins;  
it takes me hours to reach my maximum speed.

My fuel rate burns inefficiently –  
but here's the worst of it -  
almost every time I sneeze, cough or splutter . . . .  
either my radiator leaks or my exhaust back fires!

### **MOTORING MILESTONES CATSEYES**

#### **Who invented them?**

Percy Shaw, who applied for a patent for his invention on 3<sup>rd</sup>  
April 1934. The idea came to him while he was driving in thick  
fog. The reflection of a cat's eyes warned him he was near the  
edge of the road, saving him from plunging over a cliff.

#### **What a stroke of luck**

Indeed, but the first reflecting road studs were actually called  
Gloworm studs. They were invented by Jean Neuhaus and  
tested on roads in London a month before Shaw applied for his  
patent.

#### **Wormseyes doesn't have the same ring to it**

In 1937 the Ministry of Transport chose Shaw's Catseyes over  
other varieties of reflecting road studs. A unique feature of his  
design is that the reflectors are automatically polished wherever  
a car runs over the Catseyes' rubber hood.

#### **Did Percy get his dues?**

Oh yes! Having raised a family of 14 on a weekly wage of £1,  
Percy ended up a millionaire. And in 1965, he was appointed  
OBE for his contribution to road safety.

**CLASSIFIEDS – FOR SALE AND WANTED**

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

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

***Deadline for articles – Tues 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026 Editor, Nerene Backhouse – [npbackhouse.a30@gmail.com](mailto:npbackhouse.a30@gmail.com)***

**For Sale - 1965 Ford Mustang GT**

L.H.D 289ci 3 speed T Bar Auto  
75,570 Miles Vin 5R07A227130  
Blue & White Pony interior Reg No AU5289  
Caspian Blue Grey Vinyl Roof. \$40,000  
All receipts available for work done  
**Russ Adams – 0401 739 534**

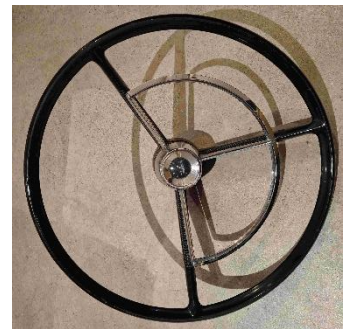


**WANTED TO BUY - Flathead Ford V8 engine**

– prefer running and in good condition.  
**Contact Warren Harris – 0417 590 760**

**For Sale**

1963 Falcon steering wheel in very good condition,  
complete with chrome horn \$300  
**Contact Jeff Morcombe – 0402 112 030**



**FOR SALE – 2000 Mercedes Benz C200 Elegance**

4 door Auto Sunroof 106,458 kms  
New A/C compressor, condenser, dryer and gas  
New battery 5 Michelin tyres Spotless condition  
Club plates - 097H34  
Engine 11194522112628  
VIN WDB2020202F963470  
Advertised last year for \$15,000  
Will sell for \$13,000 ONO  
**Contact - Graeme 0438 355 922**



**For Sale – 1988 Toyota Celica Coupe SX**

Liftback Auto Rally mags 288,600km  
White exterior – 2-tone grey interior  
Engine Number 3S9015907  
VIN ST162723409  
Was former club members, Ron & Lyn Richardson  
\$6,000  
**Contact Moyle – 0417 556 694**



**For Sale – 1983 Suzuki GR 650**

55,581 km Unregistered With Manual  
VIN GP51A103068 Engine No. P501111859  
\$2,800 Very good condition  
**Contact – Jenny - 0408 950 091**



**For Sale - Workshop manuals all A4 size**

Chrysler master maintenance manual all models from C1 to C17 and C Z etc.

6&8 cylinder, all 1930" models approx.400 pages \$200.00

1935 Plymouth maintenance manual

Model PJ cylinder approx.100pages \$100.00

Large English workshop manual of 900 pages on all UK vehicles from

1930 to 1950 Alvis to Wolseley \$250,00.

1940 Oldsmobile models 60,70,90 series

6 & 8 cylinder models 282 pages \$120.00

Ford service Bulletins from 1927 to 1937.

Bound together in a binder

Covers A models to Ford V8 of 1937model 79 also Lincoln-Zephyrs and 4cylinder

models from UK approx. 400 pages. \$250.00.

1963 Mack truck model F607 RT. Service manual

Appr. 200 pages \$40.00.

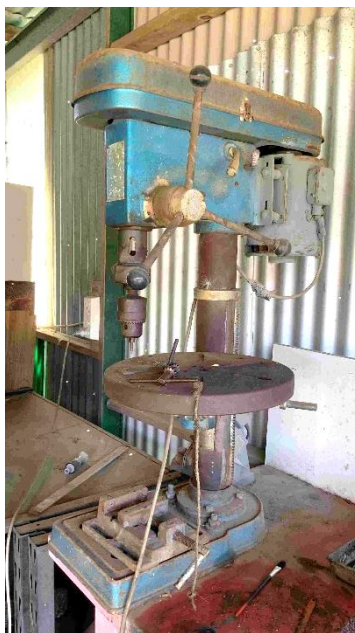
**Contact - Graeme Edward - Ph. 0409 850 192**

**For Sale Contact – Helen – 0450 634 721**

Vintage Wheel \$10



Bench Drill \$60



Singer K6 Industrial Sewing Machine  
with walking foot \$1,200



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

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

If you are unable to attend a meeting then:

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

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

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

**Fifth Option** – Contact Permit Officer and make other arrangements.

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

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

**CLUB CALENDAR – APRIL – JUNE 2026**

For the Details of Events, see Pages 5 & 6 - also refer to this year's 12-month calendar

		<b>What</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>APR</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>11th</i>	<i>Horsham Swap Meet</i>	<i>Horsham</i>	<i>See Website</i>		
Thurs	16th	Rustless Wanderers Lunch	National Hotel Clunes	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
<b>Fri</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>Club General Meeting</b>	<b>Ballarat North Community Centre</b>			<b>7:30pm</b>
<i>Sat</i>	<i>18th</i>	<i>VE-VG Valiant Gathering</i>	<i>City Rowing Club Ballarat</i>			<i>9am</i>
Sun	19th	<b>Club Run (Trophy Points) Tombstone Tour</b>		<b>Noel Trengove</b>	<b>O400599707</b>	
<i>Sat</i>	<i>25th</i>	<i>All British Bike Rally</i>	<i>Maldon</i>			
<b>Tues</b>	<b>28th</b>	<b>Club Committee Meeting</b>	<b>NOTE – change of date</b>			<b>7.30pm</b>
<b>MAY</b>						
<i>Sat-Sun</i>	<i>2nd-3rd</i>	<i>Steam Rally</i>	<i>Lake Goldsmith</i>			
Sat	9th	Ladies Crafternoon	Ballarat North Community Centre	Jenny Ure	0409954077	1:30-4pm
Wed-Tue	13-19th	Lake Bolac Camp-Out	Picnic Point, Lake Bolac	Nerene Backhouse	0427348060	
Thurs	14th	Rustless Wanderers Lunch	TBA	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
<b>Fri</b>	<b>15th</b>	<b>Club General Meeting</b>	<b>Ballarat North Community Centre</b>			<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>Club Run (Trophy Points) – Lake Bolac Camp Out</b>	<b>Details next month</b>			TBA
<b>Tues</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>Committee Meeting</b>	<b>1 Traminer Court</b>			<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>23rd</b>	<b>Heritage Day – Pre 30s Display</b>	<b>Camp Street Ballarat</b>		0409018867	8:30-3:30
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>Heritage Day – 30s – 80s Classics Display</b>	<b>Camp Steet Ballarat</b>	Brendan Stevens	0409018867	8:30-3:30
Sun	31st	Historic Racing	Winton (Hopefully 20 seat bus)	Need an organiser please		
<b>JUNE</b>						
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>Naked Radiator Run</b>	<b>Latrobe Street, near Bendix</b>	<b>Frank &amp; Jan Tamis</b>	<b>0475192372</b>	<b>10.30am</b>
<i>Sat-Sun</i>	<i>6th-7th</i>	<i>Hamilton Rally</i>	<i>Hamilton</i>			
<i>Sat-Sun</i>	<i>6th-7th</i>	<i>Echuca Steam Rally</i>	<i>Echuca</i>			
Thurs	18th	Rustless Wanderers Lunch	TBA	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
<b>Fri</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>Club General Meeting</b>	<b>Ballarat North Community Centre</b>			<b>7:30pm</b>
Sat	20th	Ladies Crafternoon	Ballarat North Community Centre	<b>Jenny Ure</b>	<b>O409954077</b>	<b>1:30-4pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>Club Run (Trophy Points)</b>	<b>Harcourt Mini Railway Complex</b>	<b>John &amp; Gayle Pickering</b>	<b>O408914943</b>	<b>TBA</b>

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



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