



HAMILTON & DISTRICT

V. V. C. DRIVERS CLUB
Veteran Vintage Classic (Incorporated)
A0009739L

The Secretary,
P.O. Box 174
HAMILTON, Vic. 3300

In this issue

- Club calendar
- President report
- Health, wellbeing & welfare
- AGM Minutes
- General Minutes
- Club Run
- This and That
- Harrow Auction
- Classic cars of 2050
- Ads
- Nomination Form

*Please check emails for
upcoming events.*

Facebook- [handdvcdc](https://www.facebook.com/handdvcdc)

Please email all club correspondence to

handdvcdc@gmail.com

Newsletter items and reports

editorhanddvcdc@gmail.com

Return Address

P O Box 174

Hamilton Vic 3300



NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2025

Club Runs:

- **Wednesday 10th— Annual Memorial Run**
- **Sunday 21st— Pomonal, Motor Neurone Disease fundraiser**



Out with the old and in with the new!

We say goodbye to Bianca and welcome to Lyall Grey as the new editor.

Bianca wishes Lyall all the best and is looking forward to the exciting things to come for the club. She knows Lyall will do an amazing job with the newsletter, especially with his interesting talents and history. What an amazing member we have with an amazing story.

Committee 2025/26

Position	Contact	Position	Contact
PRESIDENT: Pam Pollock	0419 145 452 pampollock135@gmail.com	VICE PRESIDENT Graham Ralph	0418 344 390
SECRETARY PUBLIC OFFICER Dennis Dawson	0417 328 622 handdvvcdc@gmail.com handdvvcdc@gmail.com		
TREASURER Peter Dowdle	peterdowdle@aussiebroadband.com.au 0428 574 296	ASSISTANT TREASURER Bev Ainger	0407 910 796
CLUB EVENT COORDINATORS Peter Cay & John Wilken	0429 402 904 0487 031 951	NEWSLETTER EDITOR Lyll Grey & Pam Pollock	0419 720 041 editorhanddvvcdc@gmail.com
COMMITTEE MEMBERS Daryl O'Flaherty Robert Brody Rodger Garland Cameron Delahoy Geoff Roberts	0417 364 987 0458 252 226 0407 720 809 0457 922 723 0418 893 333	FEDERATION REPS Graeme Ralph	0418 344 390
BUILDING COMMITTEE Denis Polack (Chairman) Graeme Ralph Ern Polack Russell Ward Robert Brody	55723284 0418 344 390 0428 352 538 0412 407 893 0458 252 226	PERMIT RENEWALS Richard Neaves Rod Potter Graeme Ralph Pam Pollock	0488 231 835 0427 507 693 0418 344 390 0419 145 452 <i>Phone for an appointment</i>
SUPPER COORDINATOR Betty Ralph	0428 030 075		
WELFARE OFFICERS Roger Garland	0407 720 809 Please contact if you know of an illness, death or any spe- cial occasion.	CLUB LIBRARIAN Keith & Karen Arnold	0419 855 490
NEW MEMBER CONTACT	President/Secretary/ Treasurer		

2025 CLUB CALENDAR

Meetings, club runs and events

Clubrooms are situated at the Pastoral Museum in Hiller Lane Hamilton
Meetings 3rd Thursday of the month@7:30pm Bring some supper to share.
Club runs are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY and then the FOURTH SUNDAY of each month.

Sunday 7th September	Coffee and Cars. 9am—11am
Wednesday 10th September	Annual Memorial Run (a good run for the old cars) when we remember club members passed. Meet at the club room at 1.00pm for 1.30pm departure. We will travel out to the Nigretta and on to the Wannon reserve where Peter will have fires set up for us to enjoy toasting some crumpets for afternoon tea. The billy will be on the boil for a cuppa. Tea, coffee, milk, cups, butter, jam, honey will be supplied but please bring your own crumpets or bread. We may need a rug or a good warm coat. Bring chairs. Thank you to Peter Cay and Pam.
Tuesday 16th September	<u>2026 Rally Meeting.</u> A meeting will be on Tuesday the 16th of September to form a committee for the 2026 Rally. Please think about getting involved.
Thursday 18th September	General Meeting. 7.30pm at the club rooms. Our guest speaker this month is Robert Baulch, he will be sharing his wealth of knowledge on Bentleys.
Friday 19th September	WDHS Social Support Group will be arriving for lunch at 11.30 am. We will be supplying the cuppa, a talk and pictures; Can members please bring along some cars for display and/or for a ride for the visitors. We would really love some members to come along and help please.
Sunday 21st September	Jim and Karen Leithhead have their Lincoln cars and Memorabilia collection open to the public as a fundraiser for Motor Neurone Disease. They are situated at Pomonal. Open from 9.00am till 3.00pm and costing \$25.00 per adult with accompanying children free. CASH ONLY. Meet at club rooms at 9.30am for 10.00am departure. Thanks to Colin Warfe for putting us onto this one. See more on I've lived in Hamilton on Facebook.
Friday 26th September	Club rooms are open for coffee, lunch and chat @ 12pm. BYO lunch
Sunday 28th September	Meet at club room at 9.00am for 9.30am departure to Rod Home's at Bolwarra where we can look at his collection. From there we will travel back to Heywood for either a pub meal or something from the bakery. Thanks to John Wilken.
Sunday 5th October	Coffee and Cars. 9am—11am
Wednesday 8th October	A nice run out to Dergholm via a scenic route. Meet at club room at 9.30am for a 10.00am departure. Thanks to Rodger Garland.
Sat/Sun 18th/19th October	PASTORAL MUSEUM OPEN DAYS. Volunteers are needed for the gate and the kitchen. Also could members please bring along your cars for display. Could members also be on hand in the club room for some promotion of our club.
Sunday 26th October	Around Lake Linlithgow area in the afternoon and back to the club room for a sausage sizzle. More information to come.

Another month gone. Look out Christmas, here we come!

The weather has been a bit nasty, but good for filling those empty dams. Some clear days saw some of our members enjoying a couple of runs this month in the sunshine when we were able to soak up the warm sun and spend the afternoons socialising after a lovely drive.

Our AGM was held recently with a very decent turn up of members. I am President for another year and all other positions have been filled, with some new faces on committee. Thanks to all those who have volunteered to take on these roles. With two new club captains on board, it will be interesting to see what lies in store for our enjoyment over the next months.

Congratulations all and best wishes for the coming year.

Cheers,

Pam.

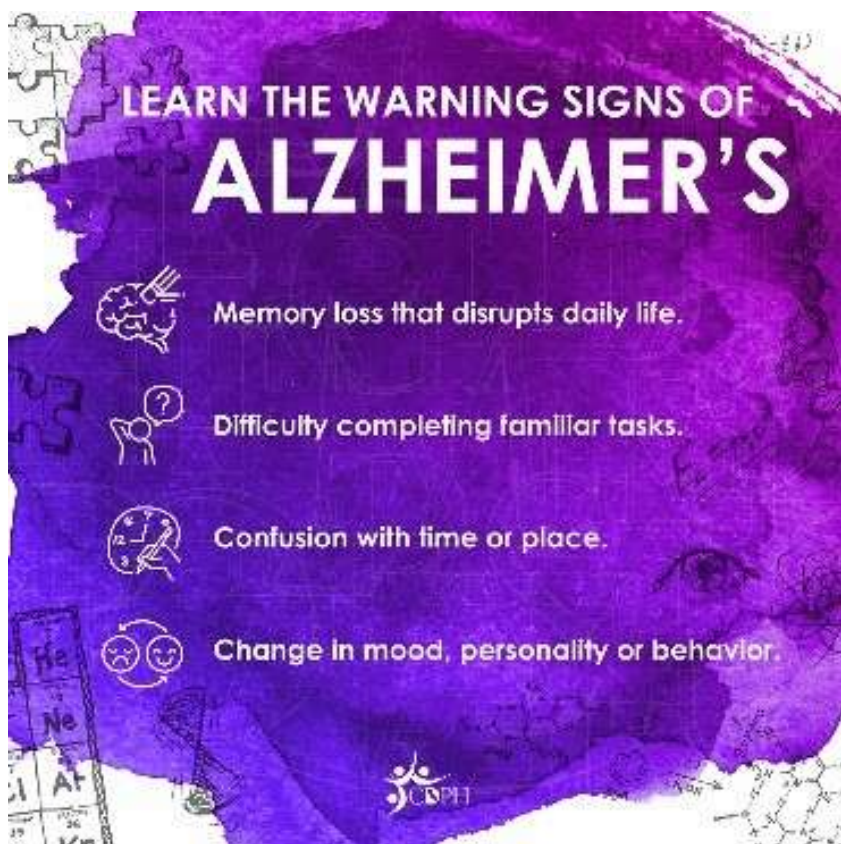
Health, Wellbeing & Welfare

Hello Members,

We hope you are doing well. Please remember to reach out to anyone of us if you are struggling or need an ear to listen.

This month World Alzheimer's Month

Safe travels to everyone. May your rubber stay on the road.



Annual General Minutes 21.8.2025

Meeting Opened	7.30 p m
Members Attending	As per the attendance register
Apologies	Russell Ward, Rob Baulch Phillip Porter, Andrew Anson, Geoff Sharrock, Rob Fraser, John and Val Lawson, Ron and Bev Ainger, Andrew Huf, Lorraine Wilson and Penny Fraser
MINUTES	The minutes of the 2024 Annual General meeting were confirmed on the motion of Bianca Higgins and seconded by Richard Neaves and Carried
Presidents Report	Presented by Pam Pollock. Pam appreciated the contribution by the Club Secretary, Treasurer and the Building Committee. Thanks were recorded to Roger Garland for his efforts as Welfare Officer. Particular thanks were mentioned for Betty Ralph in her work at Catering. Thanks were recorded to the Federation and AOMC Representatives for their attendance at those meetings. Specific thanks were recorded to the Newsletter Editor for her work in the communications role. Thanks were also recorded for Rod Potter as Club Captain and other members who have arranged visits to places of interest. Members are encouraged to assist with ideas and arranging runs of interest. Pam also recorded her thanks to those members who continue to support our activities and events. Meetings have continued to be well attended although numbers on various runs have been smaller than in previous years. Pam mentioned technology and requirements providing some challenges for any incoming administration. A copy of the full report is attached to these minutes.
Club Captains Annual Report	Rod Potter presented the Club Captains Report and noted numbers down for some events but increased for some others. Rod appreciated the support from the membership to arrange and support runs and events hosted by the club throughout the year.
Treasurers Report	Peter Dowdle presented the Treasurer's Report. A copy of the Treasurers Report is attached. Peter noted that the Charity Reserve of \$1767.00 are funds that have been raised for charity but not yet spent. If not spent the funds are noted as being taxable. Rally profits were quite high and it is noted that they are taxable. Peter indicated that the operating profit was lower than 2024 but the club is still in a sound financial position. Peter reported problems with the taxation issues as they have declined to advise of the person who they have on their records as being the responsible treasurer for the club. There is no information as to our tax file number and the tax office will not divulge it. Peter is to liaise with Dan Tehan's office in relation to the taxation issue. Peter recommends that there be no fee increase for the financial year 2025/26. It was moved by Graeme Ralph and seconded by Peter Dowdle that the subscriptions remain at \$50.00 per year for e.mail newsletters and \$65.00 per year for those members who receive a printed copy of the newsletter. Carried

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE	President Pam vacated the Chair and handed over to Roger Moodie to conduct the election of office bearers for the 2024/25 Club Year. The following were the results noting that there were single nominations for the positions and no election was required. PRESIDENT: Pam Pollock VICE PRESIDENT: Graeme Ralph SECRETARY / PUBLIC OFFICER: Dennis Dawson TREASURER: Peter Dowdle CLUB CAPTAIN: Peter Cay/John Wilken (Subject to acceptance) NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Lyall Grey/Pam Pollock COMMITTEE MEMBERS: The following member's names were submitted: Robert Brody, Cameron Delahoy, Rodger Garland,, Geoff Roberts, Daryl O'Flaherty The following Ex- officio appointments were made: Librarian No appointment Welfare Officer: Rodger Garland. Registrar: Graeme Ralph Supper Co- ordinator: Betty Ralph Federation Delegates: Graeme Ralph, Dennis Dawson AOMC Delegates: Dennis Dawson and Peter Dowdle Building Committee: To be appointed by the General Committee.
GENERAL BUSINESS	— No General Business has been notified.
MEETING CLOSED	The meeting closed at 8.30pm

General Minutes 21.8.2025

Meeting Opened	8.30PM
Members Attending	As per the attendance register
Apologies	Russell Ward, Rob Baulch, Phillip Porter, Andrew Anson, Geoff Sharrock, Rob Fraser, John and Val Lawson, Ron and Bev Ainger, Andrew Huf, Lorraine Wilson and Penny Fraser.
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Confirmed on the motion of Richard Neaves and seconded Daryl Flaherty Carried
Business Arising	Nil
Treasurers Report	General Account \$13358.00 Rally Account \$24914.00 Term Deposit at Westpac \$41,916.00
Outstanding Accounts	Petty Cash Float \$200.00 A liability for income tax was noted at \$2422.00 Robert Brody advised that the power bill for this quarter was higher than usual at \$148.92.
New Membership Applications	Nil

Correspondence	Various newsletters Copy of Club Statement of Purposes from Consumer Affairs including original amended Model Rules Flyer Bendigo Swap Meet – Volunteers Required for gate Update Request from AOMC for contact & delegates AOMC Governance and Checklist advice Information from AOMC re Membership PLUS benefits (Insurance) Membership Renewal for Vintage Austin Register
Club Captains Report	Report on WDHS Visit and request for further visit. 31 August run to Pomonal Markets leaving club at 9.30am
Building Committee	No Report
Federation Report	Bob Martin reported on the last Federation meeting noting that the Bendigo Swap Costs were of the order of \$190,000.00 and volunteers were required. He also noted discussion on the taxation issues and the appointment of our club as the host for a Federation Meeting in late 2026.
Newsletter Report	Nil
Rally Report	Enquiries in relation to Chatsworth House as a destination for the 2026 Rally
Welfare Officer	
General Business	Discussion on the etiquette of driving in convoys. Pam reported on the rules advising that there were no rules and the issue ended with no result. It was suggested that perhaps slow cars could leave earlier or later so as not to impeded or slow other vehicles. Spirit of the 20's rally in April. Pam is liaising with the Pastoral Museum in relation to the catering requirements for the rally and the potential use of their facilities and some of their membership. Graeme Ralph reported that our site at Bendigo had been booked. It was Site 16 and someone was required to man the site. There were no volunteers.
Meeting Closed	9pm
Next Meeting	Third Thursday in September
Guest Speaker	None. Supper was served.

POMONAL MARKET

On Sunday the 31st of August 9 vehicles assembled at the clubrooms to travel to Pomonal Market via Moyston. We got underway at 9.30 and set a good pace to Moyston where Ned met us at the store for a coffee stop. The store was quite busy and apparently it was closing at the end of trade that day. It is a shame to see it closing and will be missed by the community. We didn't stay too long and Ned led the way to Pomonal where we parked around the oval.

The market was in full swing with various goods for sale from arts and crafts, books, bric a brac and quite a few produce stalls. After a look around we gathered beside the hall for lunch of whatever took your fancy from what was on offer. After a while we departed at our leisure for the homeward journey with the road via Halls Gap being the popular choice.

The weather was quite good on the day and everyone enjoyed a good social day in a very pleasant area of Victoria.

Rod Potter

Jeanette and I visited the native nursery at Pomonal and is well worth a look if you are in the area.



Betty Ralph

Club Person of the Year— Awarded by the committee to a member who has served the club well over the past year

Geoff Roberts-1948 MGYT

Ed Baudinette Memorial Trophy— This is awarded to the most used pre- 1960 English vehicle on club runs over the past 12 months.



Spring is here and if it is anything like that last couple of days of August 19, 20 & 21st then I cannot wait. Feel a bit more motivated to do something car wise. The past couple of weeks have been eventful, fun and more importantly with enjoyment of good company. As some members are probably aware that was a large auction of vehicles and bits in Harrow on the weekend of 9/10 August. Peter Corcoran and I were on the blower discussing an MG parts collection being auctioned the previous weekend when I stumbled onto the Harrow auction. Straight away my attention was drawn to the 1934 Singer LeMans on offer. More phone calls back and forth and Peter and I decided to make the trip down to Harrow for the viewing on Saturday 9th.

Having a nephew with his hands in most pies in the old car world comes in very handy and soon I was conversing with the acknowledged Singer LeMans guru who was able to do some great back-ground searching for me. At this stage there was only one photo provided as the main catalogue had not been published. I must admit at this stage I was pretty enthusiastic about the car. Over the next week I was able to find a couple of long forgotten photos of the same car from a Hamilton club rally in 1986 and later the same car that was a display car at the 1989 Hamilton Motor Show.



On Friday 8th, I took off from work and drove down to Peter's workshop in Alfredton. Upon arrival Peter had a clients vehicle all loaded up for delivery to Stawell. That vehicle just happening to be a Kougar-Jaguar Sports car. Based in style like a 50's Fraser Nash it is powered by a tuned straight 6 Jaguar engine which due to power-weight would provide a very lively

(1934 Singer LeMans in 1986 with a very interested John Corcoran and young Jason Pollack in front)

drive. After arriving and unloading the Kougar, I was treated to a viewing of a small selection of Peter's client's collection tucked away in an old mechanical business. One of those cars being an incredible recreation of the 1963 Jaguar E light weight 'Low Drag' coupe. The background of this beautiful car is very interesting. Car No.5 was delivered in May 1963 to Peter Lindner, a German Jaguar distributor. After racing through the 1963 European season and with LeMans in-mind, the car was sent back to Jaguar with the instructions to make it the fastest Jaguar ever produced. The "low drag" turret was designed and the Jaguar Competition Department worked to extract all the power they could from the drive train. The car was returned in time for the 1964 Le Mans race. At Le Mans the E was providing a match for the Ferrari 250 GTO's with 270kph down the main straight before mechanical issues forced its retirement. Sadly a few weeks later Peter Lindner was killed in the vehicle at Montlhrey, France. Impounded and held by French authorities for 10 years after the accident, after release it was assessed as irreparable and held in storage in Germany. In 2007 the wreck was purchased for restoration into its original shell. After 7,000 hrs of



work the car was first shown in 2011. The body of the Stawell E Type was the prototype used to form the panels for the original car and is accurate down to the last rivet. A very rare wide angle head was secured and mated to the 'doner' E type series 1 engine. Every other fitting was exactly manufactured to replicate the original. A very spectacular looking car I can assure you.



So off we went again deciding we would try the Stawell – Dunkeld Road, which was great until it turned into ungraded dirt for most of the way. Thank heavens we were in a 4WD with an empty trailer.

On Saturday morning we headed off to Harrow to join the line of 'viewing' attendees awaiting the 11.00 am kick-off. After re-

acquainting ourselves with long term club member Geoff



Waters (Member No.112) we headed into the sheds to check out of prospective interests. In a true example of why you should always inspect before purchase, my enthusiasm quickly turned to disappointment. Although solid in photo appearance, the Singer had suffered poorly in storage with multiple body and other 'visible' issues. The drivetrain was also non-original and was post war in engine, gearbox and rear axle. Peter in the meantime had found a very nice pre-war chassis outside and had decided to have a bid on a Riley based racer re-creation. A little dejected car-wise (me) but loving the drives and company we headed off back to Ballarat and then me for Melbourne for the auction was on-line only on Sunday.

Sunday came and went with the usual 'auction fever or what I call 'stupidity' (my opinion only) with the eventual hammer price of the LeMans at \$23,100 + commission. If you could do the work yourself not an 'outrageous' price, but if it had to be outsourced, a basic estimate from Peter was 15-20k to get roadworthy. All the cars went for generous prices considering their condition but fantastic for the hospital/health care beneficiaries. For me a couple of Edwardian & 20's Headlights, Peter picked up the chassis.

The next weekend we repeated the trip down to collect our goodies. Peter's chassis was identified as a c1934 Riley 9 in excellent condition, perfect for his vision of a 1920's style GP car (when the children grow up). In Harrow we met up with Mark Roberts (son of Peter Roberts Member No.128) who had driven across from just outside Adelaide to collect some items he had won from Dennington's auctions which I had picked up for him, a minor 4 hr drive each way. Mark has a wonderfully original Rolls Royce 20 H.P with saloon coachwork by Mann Egerton. Originality down to the tools and owner's top hat in its case. I was lucky enough to have a ride whilst visiting Adelaide in April.

Although not ultimately successful in securing the Singer as I had really hoped, what was apparent was the life-time connections our Hamilton car club has given us. From kids of foundation/club members, here we are all in our 50's meeting up together from 2 states to pick up and exchange bits and pieces for our cars/collection. A bond that continues even though we have all settled in different locations with our own commitments but still following our family's passion after all these years. And even funnier – none of our kids being slightly interested! Oh well, can't win them all.

Happy Motoring.

FEDERATION BENDIGO SWAP MEET 15th and 16th NOVEMBER

You should all be aware by now that the swap meeting is coming up. We are obligated to help out with this event and volunteers are needed to attend. Please think seriously about helping out as Federation is working for all of us and it is a great weekend. You have plenty of spare time to look around and grab a bargain. See Pam and perhaps a car pool can be arranged.

Take note of the following points from Federation:

BENDIGO SWAP VOLUNTEERS: Thank you to the Federation clubs who have responded with names and times for their members to volunteer at this year's Swap. Still a number that have not replied so we assume they are happy to redo the same shift as in 2024. Please Delegates and Club officials discuss the following with your Club members:

- 1. Remind your members the Swap is on 15th & 16th November with set up day Friday 14th.**
- 2. Remind members that we are looking for volunteers from your clubs for Friday 14th, Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th. The Swap open Friday morning at 8:00am and does not shut till Sunday at 6:00pm. So there are a lot of shifts to fill please.**
- 3. Remind your members that as Volunteers they receive a badge, a refreshment voucher, a pass to enter the Swap for free and for each two hour shift worked their club, your club, receives \$20.00.**
- 4. Remind them also that it's the Swap that is owned by Federation that supplies the funds for the annual tour, the 6 picnic days Federation runs, the funding for the Capital grants back to clubs, the trophies for events, the food and venues for the quarterly meetings of Delegates, the funds for people to attend meetings with Vic Roads – Department of Transport – Insurers etc., the funds for Federation to be represented on the national stage at the AHMF meetings.**
- 5. Plus much much more for the movement's future and success.**

The National Road Transport Museum was established in Alice Springs in 1995. It has evolved into a major tourist attraction in this Central Australian City, complimenting the many scenic, artistic and cultural attractions of the region.

Major features include the Kenworth Pavillion with immaculate examples prime movers created over the years, a fine array of Bulldog Macs and many examples of vehicles that pioneered road transport across the nation such as Ford, Chevrolet, Dodge, International, Thames, Morris Commercial etc. etc.

Vehicles on display vary from well preserved examples to well restored and many more in varying stages of restoration or deterioration, depending on your perspective.

There is a comprehensive collection of Vintage cars including such marques as Rolls Royce, Buick, Studebaker, Chevrolet, Dodge and so on. It would be hard not to find something to suit your personal taste.

The Wall of fame recognizes more than 1800 individuals who have pioneered and developed the road transport industry over the years. Some Hamilton identities that I noticed were Bruce Marks, Ted Rowe and Terry Holmes. I am sure there are many more there duly acknowledged!

Close to the Transport Museum is the Old Ghan railway museum with the fascination history of the railway that pushed through via Oodnadatta, reaching Alice Springs in 1929. The new Ghan line was built west of the original track, replacing it in 1980 and extending through to Darwin.

There is a lot to see and do in and around Alice Springs and the Road Transport Museum is not to be missed!

Graeme Ralph



On Friday the 8th during lunch and coffee at our clubhouse there was a lot of discussion about the on line auction on Sunday the 10th at Harrow. Some talked of going for a look, but several members who had previously visited the property said 'buyer beware' as there were mismatched parts fitted to some vehicles and restorations were not very good.

I was keen to have a look on Saturday 9th at the viewing time between 12 and 2pm. John Wilkens was also keen, so we made the trip the next day.

The front paddock which was the carpark was full of good, expensive cars which we spent time looking at on the way to the Auction display. Outdoor covered 2 acres, but we lost count of the number of sheds we looked through. John had to come back several times to round me up as I got held up talking to restorers.

We met some very interesting people from all over the State, mostly disappointed that nearly all the part restored vehicles didn't have parts to complete the job. Most were on shelves in boxes mixed with other parts.

The Singer Le Mans sold for \$25,000 and we were told beforehand that it had a Holden differential. A fairly original 63/64 TR4 Roadster sold for \$24,000.

Many genuine buyers were put off because they couldn't collect until the following Saturday. A Riley restorer from Wangaratta said it was not practical to travel all the way back with his tandem trailer.

A 1967 Jaguar 420 sedan 6cyl.engine, which had been in the shed for lots of years, 43,000 miles but no brake drums or shoes on left hand side, incorrect wheel on right hand side, sold for \$4,000. A red 1980's Jaguar sitting outside with Holden or Chev V8 sold for \$1,500 parts only.

I rang the auctioneer, Martin Evans, on Thursday 14th but he wouldn't release some prices as they were bought by resellers.

The 1929 Singer Boat tail sold to a person who left an opening bid of \$7,500 on the viewing Saturday – about 1/3 of value, probably because you couldn't start or run any vehicle.

The Auctioneer's advice was to register the day before the auction or on the day, have an open auction and bid and take goods on the day or organise to collect.

Agreed prices were very low on tools and farm gear and a lot of pieces which would normally have sold at an open auction went to scrap metal dealers, however their problem would have been support workers to run an open auction.

Although John and I thoroughly enjoyed the day we agreed an open auction would have had a better outcome, and more chance that we would have bought something we didn't really need, like the 1950 Austin Healy shell that John has a motor and gearbox to fit – but the Auctioneer wouldn't release the price as a reseller purchased it!



When we think of classic cars what comes to mind? To me mainly English, despite a well deserved reputation for shortcomings on a number of fronts. I am also minded of those of European heritage and even the odd big American "Yank Tank". Some too from the land of the Rising Sun: think Datsun 1600SSS, the Fairlady, 240/260Z cars and Godzilla, King of the Mountain; less remembered than Gentleman Jim Richard's iconic words to the iconoclastic Ford/Holden crowd.

But what does the future hold for our grandchildren? Will they revel in the sublime pleasure of the raucous exhaust note, the smell of Castrol R; the idiosyncrasies of each make and model in their design, construction, handling, braking. The inherent pleasure and frustration of fiddling with some mechanical component during a lazy Saturday afternoon or Sunday? It would seem not. Bland and characterless electric seems to be the way of the future. Even in Formula One!!

If I can channel the words of that nutty professor, Julius Sumner-Miller, "Why is it so?" Perhaps because the advent of computers has led us to accept everything that will come in a box of like minded algorithms. And so, enter China. The manufacturing behemoth of the world providing all manner of things cheap and cheerful. Early in the 20th Century that wonderful poet CJ Dennis foresaw all this in his series The Glugs of Gosh. The Glugs, us, were wonderfully complicit in accepting everything cheap from the Ogs, in return for our stones indented by Mr Ghones who, by the way, had a large measure of self interest. He acted on behalf of the community through the Knight Sir Stodge, the stooge of the good King Splosh and Tush his virtuous Queen. In the end we had traded all our stones for "eight day clocks and pickles and spanners and glue", none of which was of use to us in our defence when the stones we had traded came back through our windows. Joi warned of the future and was ostracised for not drinking the Kool Aid.

What has all that to do with motoring in the 21st Century? Think electric and hybrids and mind to the implications. China refines 70 per cent of the world cobalt and lithium, 85 per cent of the world's nickel and 90 per cent of the world's rare earth elements. Having a tight stranglehold on the elements China is the world's largest battery manufacturer, supplying every world electric car maker with their needs. Even the American ones; despite the tariffs.

In 2023 China overtook Japan to become the world's largest car exporter. They produce a VW beetle sized electric car for \$15,000.00 and develop new models in 2 years. They adapt quickly to change and volume leads to lower cost unit costs. And don't we just love buying something cheap. Think the proliferation of MG's, and those other wonderfully titled units with warm and fuzzy names like BYD (Better your day!), Zeekr, Chery, Geely, Leapmotor, Lynk and Jaecoo. The Chinese now provide the benchmark for price, quality and technology in EV's. In 1990 China had about 500,000 vehicles on their roads. In 2024 there were 440 million vehicles, 40 per cent of them electric, an 88,000 per cent increase in 34 years. Clean cars developed and powered by the world's largest contributor to greenhouse gases. The benefit of benevolent despotism and the death of competition and freedom of choice for us in the outside world.

Can we hang on to character cars for as long as I am alive? I am too old to learn Chinese use and repair manuals. Come to think of it, do I need to? If it breaks down now we throw it away and replace it for not much more than it would cost to fix. Red plates on a Zeekr? Better your day!!

I remain, yours affably,

Sym, the son of Joi. Joi warned Sir Stodge of the potential for coming events and was hung in a Snufflebutt tree for his trouble.



**"STAWELL GOLD DIGGERS"
DANIHERS DRIVE
A FIGHT MND FUNDRAISER**

 **SUNDAY**
21 September 2025

 **TIME**
9.00am - 3.00pm

WHERE
254 Tunnel Road
Pomonal Vic

Cash only Event
Adults \$25 Children
under 16 Free

**EXPLORE A RARE COLLECTION OF
WORLD CLASS CARS &
MEMORABILIA**

Help the "Stawell Gold
Diggers Team" raise vital
funds towards a world free
from motor neurone disease

**Coffee Van &
Sausage sizzle**

BYO Chair

Welcome to bring your
pride & joy along.

Contact The "Stawell Gold Diggers team Jim and Karen
Leithhead. & Tony and Jodie Scantleton for More information:

Jim 0419 868920 Karen 0417 534440

For Sale



1971 Volkswagen Superbug
Club permit number 0099HO
Engine Number: AK225566
All new tyres, new carby kit,
sun roof, road worthies Sep-
tember 2023.

Original

HAMILTON, VIC

COFFEE & CARS



1st Sunday of every month, 9am - 11am

Campe's Motor Museum - 226 Coleraine Rd




FOR SALE

2017 V8 SS Commodore sedan.

6 Speed manual.

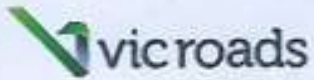
One owner.

30,000 km approx. genuine.

Service history available.

VIN 6G1FC5EW0HL311994

\$52,500.00 Ph 0407 910 796

How to renew your Club Permit online

with a myVicRoads account

- ### 1. RENEWAL NOTICE

VicRoads will send you an email to let you know your club permit renewal is coming up.

Your renewal notice will be mailed to you with your logbook and permit sticker


- ### 2. CLUB SIGN OFF

An office bearer at your vehicle club/association must sign your renewal notice to declare that you are a current member.


- ### 3. YOUR SIGNATURE

Don't forget as the permit holder you need to sign your renewal notice.


- ### 4. UPLOAD RENEWAL

Upload your signed renewal via your myVicRoads account online and pay the fee to renew your club permit.



Visit vicroads.vic.gov.au



For sale:

1934? Dodge truck. Please contact Mr Ern Polack 0428352538 or bannerelectrical@gmail.com in the first instance if interested. The truck is 100% complete and just needs a restoration

Engine # for the Dodge Truck is T25 2073



FOR SALE

NISSAN MP300 (4 door ute) Canopy \$500.00

MGB 1963 Green 92223-H

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