

ISSUE 807



September 2025

THE VINTAGE DRIVER

The official magazine of the Vintage Drivers Club

Patron: Brian Tanti



THE VINTAGE DRIVERS' CLUB INC

Established 1958 Reg No. A0110905M ABN 30 004 426 528

'Catering for those who own or appreciate Vintage Vehicles'

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Email: vicepresident@vdc.org.au

Secretary: David Jenkins



Mobile 0413 901 734
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Treasurer: Maureen Ross



Mobile 0412 263 155
Email: treasurer@vdc.org.au

Committee: Stuart McCorkelle



Events Co Ordinator
Mobile 0423 939 053
Email: events@vdc.org.au

Committee: Doug Stevenson



Membership
Mobile 0419 319 977
Email: membership@vdc.org.au

Committee: Arnold Chivers



Club Permits
Mobile 0432 096 208
Email: clubpermits@vdc.org.au

Committee: Melissa Sterry



Room Bookings
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Email: bookings@vdc.org.au

Committee: Glenda Chivers



Website Co Ordinator
Mobile 0431 709 248
Email: committee3@vdc.org.au

Committee: Trevor Barby



Mobile 0422 740 310
Email: committee2@vdc.org.au

Safety Check Officers

The following Club Members are eligible to conduct Vehicle Safety Inspections on Members vehicles and sign Vehicle Safety Reports:

John Rhodes	0400 118 309
Brian Smith	0401 802 264
John Davis	0418 998 520
John Johnston	0417 354 998
Hein Otten	0418 390 538

Licensed Club Nominee:

John Johnston

Magazine Editor

Iain Ross

Email: editor@vdc.org.au

Events Committee:

Stuart McCorkelle, Doug & Edith Stevenson, Garry Jewell, Holly Samson, and Doug Sterry.

An inspection fee will be charged by the service provider which will include an amount of \$40, which is to be returned to the Club.

Members Meeting
Friday 26th September 2025
Enjoy a drink and a chat from 6:30pm.
Meeting starts at 8pm

BOOKING DOC's DODGE

Simply complete the online booking form and then contact David Jenkins to confirm availability.

Email: dnpjenkins@yahoo.com

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Vintage Drivers Club or its officers. Whilst all care has been taken, neither the club nor its officers accept responsibility for the accuracy of information printed and or the quality of any items or services advertised or mentioned in this publication. The editor reserves the right to edit contributions submitted for publication.

CALENDAR 2025

Sept	13th	Saturday	Coffee & Chat
	21st	Sunday	VSCC Rob Roy Hill Climb
	26th	Friday	Members Meeting
	27th-28th	Sat-Sun	Camping Weekend
October	11th	Saturday	Coffee & Chat
	15th	Wednesday	Mid-Week Run
	24th	Friday	Members Meeting
Nov.	8th	Saturday	Coffee & Chat
	15th-16th	Sat & Sun	Bendigo Swap Meet
	19th	Wednesday	Mid-Week Run
	28th	Friday	Members Meeting
	30th	Sunday	Christmas/Presentation Luncheon

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New Members

The following have recently joined our Club,
Please make them very welcome

Paul and Allison Baker 1925 Vauxhall 23/60
John Davis - rejoining member

We hope you enjoy being members of our Club.

Front Cover:



Neil Worme's 1923 Columbia Tourer,
read more inside this issue.

Magazine Closing Date

Closing date for contributions for the October magazine is:

Monday 29th September 2025

Membership Enquiries

New Membership Applications &
all membership enquiries to Doug
Stevenson Mob: 0419 319 977
Email: membership@vdc.org.au

Permit Renewals & Applications: are to be sent to the Club Permits Officer, Arnold Chivers 10 Beaufort Rise, Warrandyte Vic 3113. Documentation should include—**1.** VicRoads Renewal Application Form **SIGNED BY THE MEMBER** **2.** Cheque or money order made payable to VicRoads **3.** Stamped envelope addressed to VicRoads. OR Stamped self addressed envelope if you want the signed form returned to yourself. The Club Permits Officer will: Confirm the applicant's membership, financial status and vehicle eligibility and will post all relevant documents in the envelope provided. **NEW PERMIT APPLICATIONS** are to be sent to the Club Permit Officer as above and include **1.** Vic Roads Application Form **2.** VicRoads Eligibility Form **3.** Photos as per VicRoads requirements **4.** For vehicles pre 1948, a vehicle safety report signed by an authorized Vehicle Safety Check Officer as appointed by the Club or a roadworthy certificate. Vehicles post 1948 a Roadworthy Certificate. As it is better for the owner to personally collect the new plates from VicRoads the application should be accompanied by a stamped self addressed envelope and no payment need be included.

From the President

Hello! Another month gone, and time again to put pen to paper for the Presidents report – as I think about what to write I wonder if anyone reads this – do let me know

Earlier in the year we ran a members survey and I thought I'd share a summary: Overall we had 123 responses to the survey, the majority being long term members with 60% greater than 10 years, 14% between 5 & 10 years, 25% between 1 & 5 years and a couple less than a year.

There was a fairly even spread of attendance at our members meetings between regular attendance, occasional, only once or twice and members who had never attended. In general, the main reason for members not being able to attend more often was living too far away (60%) or other conflicts/too busy (25%). The majority of respondents had either no-opinion or wanted no change to the meeting topics. Display cars, guest speakers and socialising came out on top of what respondents wanted to see more of whilst apologies and raffle were top of the “do less” list.

In terms of feedback relating to our magazine and events, the vast majority of respondents were very satisfied, with

an average score of 4.6 and 4.3 respectively (out of 5) and some great feedback about what members like together with a few suggestions.

The top two reasons for joining the club were socialising and driving events (which is lucky for a car club) and whilst a lot of respondents were unable to help with club activities approximately 50% offered to provide some form of help – which is great – thanks!

Overall, the results were very positive, with no major areas needing change and a number of helpful suggestions - thanks again to everyone who provided their input!

Cheers,
Richard



From the Editors Desk

Welcome to the September issue of The Vintage Driver the 807th issue of our clubs regular magazine. Now for many of our members, particularly those living in the Victorian regions, our magazine is the main contact with club activities.

Now I need your assistance with the magazine. I really would like to be able to feature more self-written articles describing your experience with vintage motoring and all that goes with it. How did you come to own a vintage vehicle? How did your restoration go? What was the most enjoyable rally or run that you attended. All these experiences are of interest to our members.

Now if you are not computer literate send me handwritten notes, and some photos and I will soon have it converted into a suitable article for publishing. I'm happy to discuss the above with anyone so please do not be shy. Let's ensure our monthly magazine is filled with great content.

Now speaking of the regions, I have noticed that the emphasis of many of our regional clubs has changed.

In the past they were heavily orientated towards vintage motoring but now the age of club vehicles seems to be much younger. I believe this provides an opportunity for our club to expand its reach to provide coverage for vintage vehicles in the regions.

Let's keep vintage motoring whilst we can and enjoy the read.

Iain R



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of The Vintage Drivers' Club Inc Registered No. A0110905M will be held before the Members Monthly Meeting on Friday 24th October 2025 where the following business will be conducted.

- To confirm the Minutes of the previous annual general meeting held on 25th September 2024.
- To receive and consider the Annual Reports of the Committee on the activities of the Club during the preceding financial year.
- To receive and consider the Financial Statement of the Club as at 30th June 2025.
- To elect the members of the Committee for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 7 Executive Committee positions

NOTE: Details and Minutes of the 2024 AGM were printed in the September 2024 issue of "The Vintage Driver" magazine.

Nominations for committee positions and assignment of a proxy (should you be unable to attend the AGM) may be completed on line using the [link](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/X8MnN84Bn9) or QR code below.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/X8MnN84Bn9>



If you are unable to complete the forms online you may submit your nominations and/or proxy assignment in writing to the Secretary via e-mail to secretary@vdc.org.au or by post to The Vintage Drivers Club Secretary, PO BOX 3414, Nunawading, Victoria 3131.

Nominations must be received by Friday 3rd October and proxy assignments must be received no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting (unless provided directly to the chairman before or at the commencement of the meeting).

Please note: A nominee must be a financial member, and with the exception of existing committee members, you must confirm the nominee is willing to act in the position for which they have been nominated. You may make nominations for any number of the positions (e.g. one or all positions). Any candidate unsuccessfully nominated for President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, is automatically nominated for Committee. For proxy assignment, you are confirming the appointment of the selected member to vote on your behalf at the AGM. You may give specific directions as to how the proxy is to vote, otherwise the proxy may vote on your behalf in any matter as they see fit.



Vale - Bruce Anderson

Information provided by Brian Skewes

Our long time member Bruce Anderson passed away on 8th of August. Bruce joined the club in 1974 and received his 50 year membership badge late last year.

Bruce was one of the quiet members in the club. Never on the committee but Bruce was passionate about the Yarra Glen Swap Meet, assisting with it every year since the first Yarra Glen Swap in 1996, Bruce was one of the first volunteers each year. He used to put out signs for the Swap in Yarra Glen, help out with marking out of sites on the day before the Swap and then on the day of the Swap he would be there before dawn to help with marshalling and showing sellers to their sites. Then, for a lot of years, at the end of the day he would bring in his trailer and help clearing up the rubbish left in the Swap area. Even with failing health he insisted on being part of the team of volunteers at the swap meet.

Bruce and Jean were passionate enthusiastic club members regularly attending events initially in a Ford Model A and later a Ford V8.

Our sincere condolences are extended to Bruce's family.



Vale - Howard James

Information provided by Ian Cartwright

I am sure all members will be saddened by the passing of Howard this month after a short battle with cancer. Our thoughts are with his family and in particular his wife Sandy. Known for his stoic and cheery attitude in the face of several health issues in recent years, Howard faced several brain surgeries and a bypass. All of which he survived brilliantly.

I first met Howard, his family and his Dodge 4 on the 1967 combined club Hub rally in Albury, and we have been good friends ever since. Howard was born in Rupanyup and went to school in Ballarat. His father built the Titanic bandstand memorial in Ballarat. He served in the air force as a National Service man and learned to fly Tiger moths. He became a pharmacist at a time when you did an apprenticeship. He took over the actual Pharmacy where he did his training on the corner of Bridge Rd Richmond. This became a meeting place later for many Vintage enthusiasts where talk was only interrupted by the need to fill out prescriptions.

As a committee member and very active participant in all club events he was president twice and he played a pivotal role in steering the club during the period 1960s to 1990s. It is well considered that his influence and wisdom significantly contributed to the development of the club.

Post his presidency Howard became interested in Healey's and was elected to president of that club where his talents were also evident.

Within our club Howard mentored the club library at the Westgarth street club rooms He was the entrepreneur of the Sydney overnight dash to Melbourne and other feats inspired by Wizard Smith.

Howard was a keen sportsman and was always a participant in the many inter club matches and competitions (including boat races on Albert Park Lake) between our club and the Veteran and Classic car clubs.

For many years he was the announcer at Kalorama where he expounded a good knowledge of old cars and displayed a good relationship with other clubs. He was well liked and respected on an interclub basis.

His love of cars continued with him in recent years with his BMW Z3, its predecessors being Healey, Riley 9, Talbot, and others.

We will miss Howard, but his wisdom will be a lasting legacy. Our sincere condolences are extended to Howard's family.



Vale - Pamela Dewar

Information provided by Ian Cartwright

Long time member Pam Dewar passed away unexpectedly this month following an operation on her knee, she died of heart complications two days later.

She and Ian joined the club in 1971

Together with her husband Ian (deceased) she was an enthusiastic and active club member in the 1970s, 80's and 90's when they drove their 1928 Pontiac (ex Ian Cartwright) to most club events. Growing up, their children, Elizabeth and Jonathon participated in these events along with a proliferation of club members children also growing up in an era with vintage cars as a staple diet.

The Pontiac is still in the family and continues to be cherished by them. Our sincere condolences are extended to Pam's family.

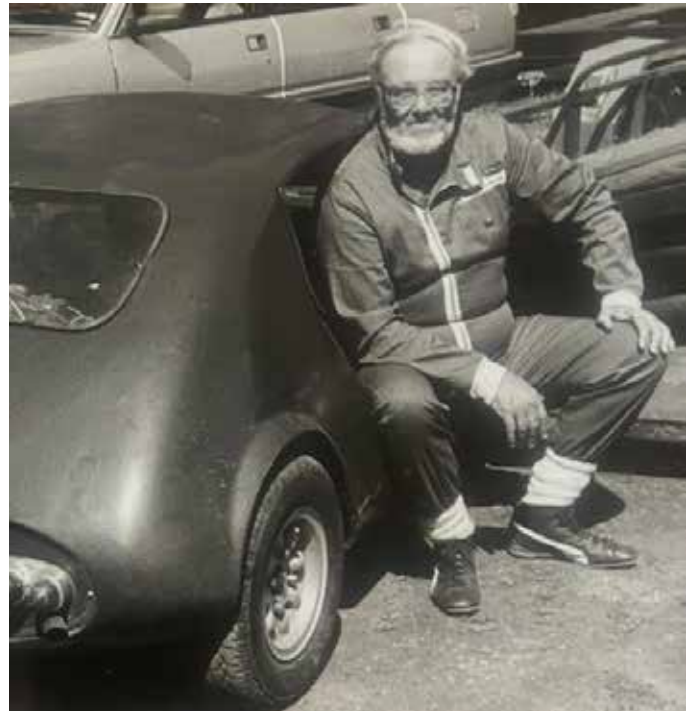


Vale - Barry Ponchard

Information provided by Hugh Venables

Barry was born in 1937 and a defining memory for him was of a Vauxhall 30/98 driving down the lane at the rear of the Collingwood home he grew up in which set him on a path of owning and driving as many similar cars as possible. As a young man he immersed himself in road and track cycling including the training squad and trying out for the 1956 Olympics but missing out. He completed an apprenticeship as an electrician, at one time working for CIG designing the first DIY welders and then a 20 year career as a technical teacher. Marrying in 1960, they moved to a one acre block in Research to raise their four children and here Barry had a suitable place to pursue his passion for collectible cars and became something of a wheeler dealer. Oldest son Michael is sure that at one time he counted 23 cars and wrecks on the property which was hotly denied by Barry. Treasures such as Sunbeam, Vauxhall, Essex, Bean, Amilcar, Jaguar, Riley and Morgan to name a few. Barry's first of three pre war series 1 Morgan 4/4s is still with the family. Barry joined our club in 1972 and was part of a small group of enthusiasts carrying out comprehensive road tests of members cars to a common formula and reporting the results in the Vintage Driver.

Also, an enthusiastic member of the VSCC he competed in events such as Templestowe Hillclimb, Geelong Sprints and Arthurs Seat Hillclimb. In more recent times he was a scrutineer at historic events and an official in the Historic Garage at the Australian Grand Prix. At one time a CFA volunteer and having set up and run a community youth program, in retirement he ran a weekly community radio variety session. If you remember Barry as I do, you'll remember a cheeky grin and a twinkle in his eye. Our sincere condolences are extended to Barry's family.



MINUTES OF THE VINTAGE DRIVERS CLUB MEETING.

DATE August 22nd 2025

MEETING CHAIRED BY: Richard Badham

ATTENDEES: There were 49 members in attendance and 5 attending on zoom.

APOLOGIES: The Wilby family

NEW MEMBERS REPORT:

Paul and Allison Baker from UK. 1925 Vauxhall 23/60.

Entrants for next year's Spirit.

Membership Renewals:

Some members have not yet renewed their membership.

Your club permit is not valid if you are not a financial member of the issuing club.

VISITORS: None recorded

DISPLAY VEHICLE: Doug Sterry's Stutz 1928 BB Stutz Blackhawk Roadster

Purchased in Nov 2024 and he is currently sorting out a few problems. Hopefully they will be able to do some rallying with it.

TREASURERS REPORT: None due to meeting format

EVENTS REPORT:

Past Events

Club Meeting: Christmas in July. – Ian McCorkelle gave a talk on the ownership of his 1925 Dodge. Thanks to Peter Flemming for his efforts with the supper and Christmas themed decorations.

New Members Day, 100-year-old cars: 27 July. Fantastic day with huge attendance considering the bleak weather. Probably the best display of cars seen at the clubrooms.

Coffee & Chat August. –41 in attendance.

Mid-Week Run – 13 August. Ann and Lyle Drysdale.

Great run from Yarra Glen to Hurstbridge on back roads.

Club Meeting – Tonight – Pub Quiz Night

Hurstbridge Wattle Festival. Sunday 31 August. Meet at 9.00am at Hurstbridge Station Car Park.

Coming Events

SEPTEMBER

Coffee & Chat – 13 September

Mid-Week Run - Wednesday 17 September. Denis

Robertshaw arranging run from Yarra Glen to Flowerdale.

Booking sheet in Super Room tonight.

Rob Roy Hill Climb – 21 September – VSCC. VDC cars welcomed as display cars and to compete in the regularity events. Club trophy's up for grabs.

Grand Final Camping Weekend – 26-28 September

– Chris and Sharyn Wells organising. Details in the Magazine.

OCTOBER

Coffee & Chat – 11 October

Mid-Week Run – 15 October – Mad Hatters Garage.

Frank Braden. The Mad Hatter assures us that this is a different collection from last year's visit!

Club Meeting/AGM – 24 October

Christmas and Presentation Luncheon. Sunday 30

November at Chirnside Country Club. Booking details will be available soon.

Early notification John and Marion Rhodes are organising the Kings Birthday Bash for next year a Hub Rally based in Ballarat. They would like an indication of numbers for bookings.

2026 Spirit of the 20's Update: Melissa Sterry. Bookings closed but if you are interested there is a waiting list in case of cancellations. Please ensure you have booked your accommodation and completed the form confirming your bookings.

MYSTERY CAR:

The Ajax was a short lived American automobile brand manufactured by the Nash Motor company of Kenosha, Wisconsin in 1925 and 1926. Based on a Lafayette design that company had been bought out by Nash. Guessed correctly by Peter Taylor.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The August meeting did not follow the usual format, as we enjoyed a 'pub quiz night'. Our question master was the incomparable Mr. Richard Badham, keeper of all answers regardless of their veracity!

The room was divided into teams with a team appropriately named the Winners sweeping all before them and taking away the prize of chocolate which, presumably, was somehow divided amongst the largest team in the room. The night was enjoyed by all who had the opportunity to demonstrate their depths of knowledge, both general and automotive. Those members on Zoom could also take part in the quiz but were ineligible for the prize.

The club still needs volunteers to help with the preparation of supper.

RAFFLE: The usual fun raffle was drawn, with some new faces scooping up the goodies.

The meeting concluded around 9:00pm followed by a generous supper.

COMING EVENTS

Doc's Dodge – our club car is available for use by members to attend any of the events.
Booking form on our website or contact club car manager - Dave Jenkins 0413 901 734

**Rob Roy Hill Climb Sunday
21st Sept.** See Flyer on next page for details.

**Club Meeting Friday
26th September.**



**Grand Final Camping Weekend
Frid 26th to Sun 28th September**
Location: Dargile Camping Area



Camp & Picnic Area 15 km NE of Heathcote, via Heathcote – Costerfield Rd, about 4 kms of good gravel Rd. HEMA code 89 E2.

Free Camping, Suitable for Motor Home, Caravan, Camper Trailers & Tents, Clean drop toilets, Shaded camp area, No pets, Phone reception, Fires allowed. Must bring drinking water with you.

Heathcote National Park is a great place for bushwalks. Mt Ida, Mt Black and Viewing Rock provide views of Heathcote and surrounding areas. The park also has a rich history with relics from the gold rush and war era to discover at Graytown.

Melville's Lockout is a prominent ridge where Captain Melville reputedly waited in ambush of miners during the gold rush.

Township of Heathcote is an easy short drive where supplies can be purchased.

A drive around the area will be organised for Saturday afternoon.

Please register your participation in this event with Chris & Sharyn Wells.

Email: chris@wells.net.au Mobile: 0408 343 497

**Coffee & Chat
Saturday 11th
October**

10am – 11:30 at the clubrooms



Mid-Week Run Wed 15th October



“The Mad Hatter’s Garage”

The Mad Hatter assures us that this is a different collection from last year’s visit!

Meet at Jells Park, 10.30am for 11.00am departure.
Enter Jells Park from Waverley Rd. Melway Map 71 K5.



Follow the one-way road and take the road towards the Jells Road exit. Meet our group in carpark before the exit.

Directions will be provided to view some of Frank’s eclectic collection “*not so much car stuff - but it is a garage*”.

When you have had enough of the “*Brain Freeze*” follow directions to Sandown Hotel for a Bistro Lunch at 12.30pm

If you are attending please notify Frank Braden by Saturday 11th October. to allow lunch booking to be confirmed.

Mobile: 0401 275 545

Email: janetbraden39@icloud.com

**Club Meeting & AGM
Friday 24th October.**



**Coffee & Chat
Saturday 8th
November**

10am – 11:30 at the clubrooms



COMING EVENTS

Doc's Dodge – our club car is available for use by members to attend any of the events.
Booking form on our website or contact club car manager - Dave Jenkins 0413 901 734



Bendigo Swap Meet Sat 15th & Sun 16th November Prince of Wales Showgrounds, Holmes Road, Bendigo.

Vintage Drivers Club members and friends are invited to meet at club site number 63, Bendigo swap map 6 H. You will be welcomed with a cuppa, bickie and a chair. This can be your rest stop to pick up club information, chat with other members or use as a prearranged place to meet a member or friends.

There will be a variety of motoring literature, technical books. VDC Caps, Lapel Badges, VDC club car badge, (members only).

If you find that precious part for your collector vehicle that is heavy or large and your transport is parked outside, you can leave it at the site and pick up when leaving. Saturday drop offs to be picked up by 4pm. Sunday drop offs to be picked up by 12noon.

Mobiles at VDC site, Garry Jewell, 0417 157 343.

Doug Stevenson, 0419 319 977

Christmas & Presentation Luncheon Sunday 30th November

Venue: Chirnside Country Club
68 Kingswood Drive Chirnside Park

Time: Arrive at 11.30 for meal at 12.00 noon

Meal: 2 Courses Main & Desert
Alternative Drop

Cost: \$29.00 per person. The cost is being heavily subsidised by our club. Drinks are available at bar prices.

Bookings essential: Advise Maureen Ross if you wish to attend.

Email: treasurer@vdc.org.au

Mobile: 0412 263 155

Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.

Bookings & Payment must be made in advance by 16th November and can be made at club meetings, Coffee & Chat or via direct deposit to club bank account:

The Vintage Drivers Club.

BSB 033-089 Acc. No. 723301

Please quote your name as the reference.



Expressions of Interest

King's Birthday Bash Weekend 5th to 9th June 2026

Hub Rally Based at Ballarat

Central Caravan Park with a good variety of cabins and sites. Share a cabin with others and save on costs.

This weekend is for those who enjoy good company, fun times, getting wet, dirty and cold exploring real vintage driving conditions, and out of the way places.

Getaway is Friday 5th June, returning Tuesday 9th, making an easier weekend of travel and a decent break away.

Any costs will be PAYG (pay as you go)
No rally fee, just your presence

Expressions of interest are requested now for planning purposes.

Phone John 0400 118 309 or Marion 0410 597 460

THE VINTAGE SPORTSCAR CLUB OF VICTORIA

VSCC VIC presents
**PRE-WAR
ROB ROY
HILL CLIMB**

**Sunday, Sept 21 2025
starting at 8am**

Entries open
1st Aug & close
13th Sept

BILLY CARTS
ARE BACK!!!

Sunday, Sept 21 2025, starting at 8am
Classes for all pre-WWII road, sports and racing cars as well as invited cars from 1940 to 1962.
375 Clintons Rd, Smiths Gully
Enquiries: VSCC Competition Secretary
Mark Burns 0417 002 892

SCAN QR CODE OR
CLICK HERE TO ENTER

Past Event

Coffee and Chat 9th August 2025

The August coffee and Chat saw a reasonable turnout of members and their cars despite a fine but quite cool day. As normal it was not long before vehicles were being inspected, and lively conversations were taking place in the clubrooms. The editorial Bristol type 400 on a rare trip to the clubrooms seemed to create some interest. As always, I recommend these informal meet ups to our members as a great way to get to know our fellow members and a great chance to check out each other's special vehicles. See you at our next coffee and chat!



Past Event

Mid-Week Run August 2025

This run was organised by Ann and Lyle Drysdale. It started with us meeting at the popular starting point at McKenzie Reserve in Yarra Glen. While it was raining as we gathered, it cleared as we were leaving.



Ann and Lyle had selected a very scenic drive on back roads from Yarra Glen to Hurstbridge including a section of well graded gravel road.

Jim Watson with his 1928 Oakland Roadster was the only vintage car that ventured out on this threatening day, and he was also one the members who travelled the furthest to attend.

Lunch was at Bridges Restaurant and Nursery in Hurstbridge with a good selection of meals to choose from. We all enjoyed a long chat over lunch.



Those attending: Jim Watson 1928 Oakland Roadster, Wayne Bromage and Kevin Stack 1970 Holden Station Wagon, Beth and Rob Kirby 1958 Holden Sedan, Edith and Doug Stevenson 1991 Mercedes Coupe, Linda and Charlie Grima and Wilma Balle Modern, Janet and Malcolm Savage Modern, Graeme Reed Modern, Ann and Lyle Drysdale Modern. Thanks to Ann and Lyle for another enjoyable Mid-Week Run.

As you know the Events Committee is looking for other members to organise Mid-Week runs, it is really easy so please offer to help.

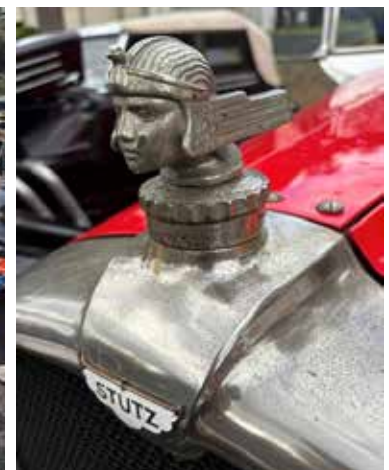
Past Event

Hurstbridge Wattle Festival - 31st August

The Hurstbridge Wattle Festival once again delivered a wonderful day out, and our club was proud to be part of the celebrations. We had a fantastic turnout, with sixteen cars on display, drawing plenty of attention from festival goers. The weather was mostly kind, which brought out a large and enthusiastic crowd. Many enjoyed the charm of the steam train ride, while others spent their time wandering through town and perusing the many market stalls and attractions on offer.

Our cars certainly added to the festival atmosphere, sparking conversations, smiles, and plenty of photo opportunities. It was a terrific opportunity to showcase our passion for motoring history and connect with the community. Thank you to everyone who brought along their vehicles and helped make the day such a success—we look forward to an even bigger display next year!

Doug Sterry



Cover Car

This month's cover car is a 1923 Columbia tourer owned by Neil Worme of Elmore Victoria. Columbia was a well thought of assembled car of its era and keen pricing saw a good number of buyers. Columbia Motors were based in Detroit and originally had been established to manufacture electric vehicles during the brass era. Switching to internal combustion engines for the twenties.

Two models were offered, and both were powered by a six cylinder Continental engine which would have seen acceptable performance when most vehicles of its day were equipped with four cylinder power units. This engine had a capacity of 3.7 litres rated at 23 horsepower. Transmission was by Durston sliding gear type transmission, clutch by Borg and Beck, Gemmer steering box, Stromberg carburettor fed by Stewart vacuum system.

It is suggested that in 1923 Columbia produced 3000 units.

Disc wheels were an available option. It also incorporated thermostatically controlled radiator shutters from around 1920, this device opened as radiator temperature increased. Columbia was one of the first marques to offer this device.



In 1923 Columbia purchased the Liberty marque to expand the company production facility, but it was soon all over for the Columbia company as it shortly went out of business.

Locally at least eleven Columbia's have been registered in Victoria. I can find no record of a Victorian dealership but there was a dealer listed for Brisbane.

The pictured car is on the market having been previously listed in the classifieds. If you are interested, you may contact Neil on 0409 935 143



Report from scholarship recipient Alana Braden

I would like to start this off by saying thank you to the Vintage Drivers Club for granting me the opportunity to participate in their scholarship program to help with the restoration of my 1929 Desoto Sedan. Having this grant funding means the brake wheel cylinders, master cylinder and brake linings can now be done. This means that the wheels can now be properly put together and onto the chassis to make it easier to be moved around for better working performance.



I hope to have it on display at my grandfather's display for the midweek run in October.

Once again thank you to the people of the Vintage Drivers Club for making the restoration of my Desoto progress that little bit quicker.

Sincerely Alana Braden

Club Project

Vintage Catering Van – Matt Weeks Reports

We got the coffee van over to Grant White and he has done a fantastic job of all the upholstery. He has made new seat bases and backs. Made all the door cards and kick panels.

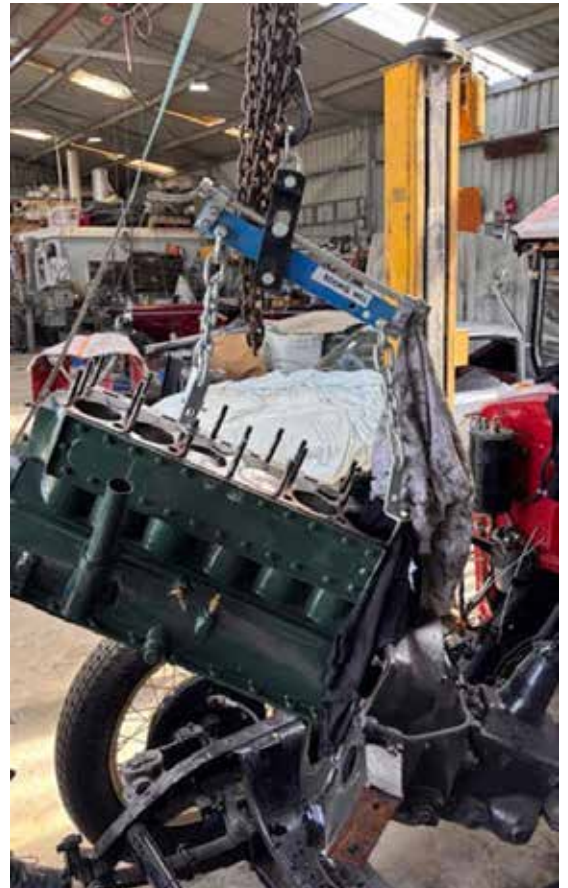
He also made a solid frame for the side curtains so they can stay on when the door is opened. He only had it for a bit over a week, and it was ready to be picked up again. He also supplied us with the material for the roof.



We have also had a small set back with the engine bearings. We were hoping the original mains and big ends were going to be ok but after running the engine a few times up to temperature, number 3 big end started getting a bit noisy. So, I pulled the sump and found the bearings had basically fallen to pieces. Better it happened now than on a rally somewhere miles from home and full of coffee and food. Richard and I pulled the engine out and have stripped it down and Stuart is going to run it up to Tom Brown for us.

Tom is going to make all new bearings for the engine for us. So, while that is all happening, we will get everything finished and hopefully when we get the engine back it will be the last thing to be done. The main thing to be done now is to finish repairing the front guards and painting them. I will also give the headlights and cowl lights some TLC so they can go on.

The sign writing should also be done by the time you're reading this. This is a mock up of the proposed sign writing.
Cheers Matt



Club Project Vintage Catering Van - Matt Weeks Reports



From the Archives

In 1987 The club took part in a Sunraysia National Rally a hub rally based in Mildura.

This event catering for both vintage and veteran vehicles attracted one hundred and fifty entrants of which our club provided fifty four entrants.

The concept of a national rally was established in 1965 and was organised by the Veteran club of NSW. The Veteran clubs of Australia appear to have been the organising body for these events and for this one they appear to have taken the lead. Our club provided the assistant rally director Gil Taylor.

The event started on a Sunday and went for five days.

I have recently viewed the information provided to entrants, impressive indeed. Each entrant received a thirty three page itinerary in the format of a magazine. This included entrants list, entrants' accommodation list. As well a list of participating clubs was provided. Some twenty seven clubs had members participating as well as the Veteran club interstate branches.

This really impressive publication served as the rally directory and included full details of each day's routes and activities.

The overall rally arrangements look extremely professional with at least twenty five benefactors many local but including the Shell company! Support was obtained for the event from the local municipality with a welcome from the town clerk/chief executive.

The organisers had set up a rally directors office at a local accommodation venue and a location for trailer parking.

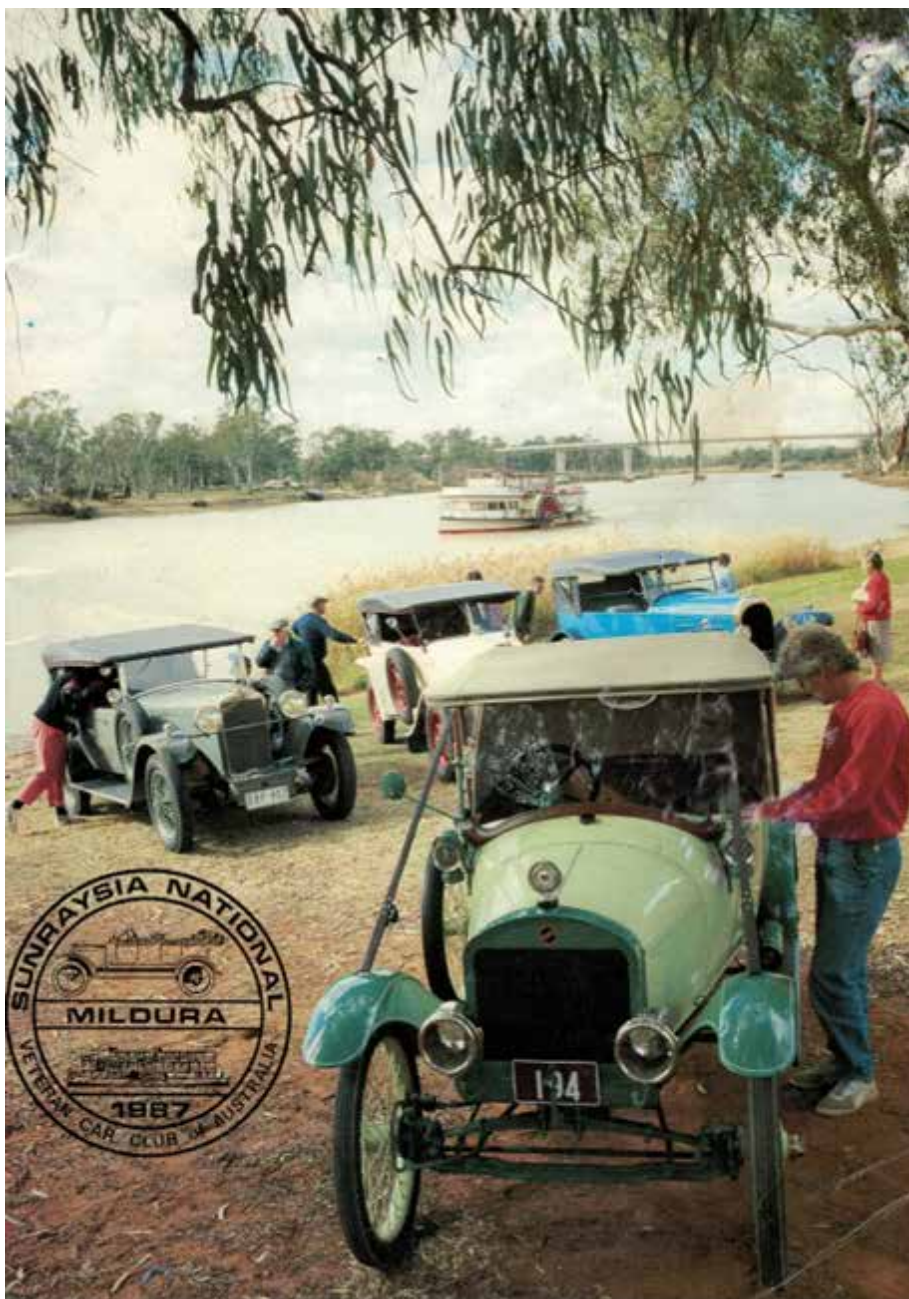
The rally director made some interesting comments concerning the future of such events including catering for an ageing population and the hub rally format versus touring event

As well he noted how even at that time there was a change in the current generation's identifying with our cars. Further he was not sure how much longer the concept of a national rally for vintage and veteran vehicles will continue.

From this writer's point of view, it was a great way to showcase our vehicles.

Thanks to George Rae for providing information concerning this event.

The following page of photos is from the programme at the time.



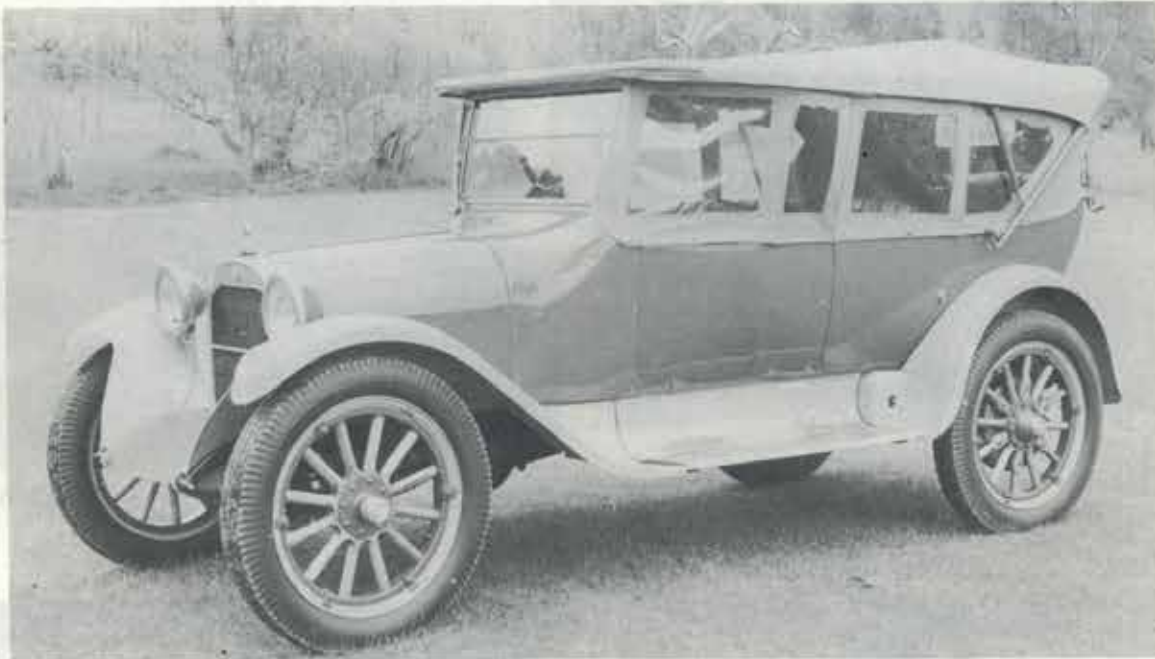
From the Archives



Entry No.29. John Davis owns this 1925 OLDSMOBILE and regularly campaigns it around Victoria with the VDC of which he is the Club Captain, (speak to him if you wish to join). See Entry No. 12 and reflect how quickly the motor car evolved in 22 years.



Entry No.30. Ron and Pam Barnett's 1928 FORD. Another tough and very popular model A, (your Editor learned to drive on one of these delightful cars across the paddocks of French Island. - Ed).



Entry No.31. A 1921 DODGE "four" owned by Ray and Ann Newell.



Entry No.32. Another 1928 FORD (model A) and this one is owned by George Rae who bought it from Queensland five years ago.



Entry No.34. Peter and Robyn Thornton own this 1924 DODGE tourer. The car was restored by Lou Corbett of Shepparton and completed in 1974. Its longest rally outing has been to Ayers Rock (N.T.) with the VDC in 1982.

Last Month's Mystery Vehicle

Last month's mystery was somewhat unusual. A result of the ambitious Charles Nash trying to cover all price categories

The Ajax was a short lived American automobile brand manufactured by the Nash Motors Company of Kenosha, Wisconsin, in 1925 and 1926. Based on a Lafayette design of the early twenties., that company had been bought out by Nash.

The Ajax came standard with a 170 cu in (2.8 L) L-head Nash straight-six engine with a seven main bearing crankshaft, force-feed lubrication system, three-speed transmission, four-wheel brakes (at that time unusual for a car of its price), steel disc wheels, as well as mohair velvet upholstery and an electric clock. The Ajax Six produced "genuine 60 mph" (97 km/h) driving.



The Ajax was produced in the newly acquired Mitchell Motors Company plant in Racine, Wisconsin. The Mitchell company had gone broke. And Charles Nash bought their manufacturing plant. In 1926, all Ajax models were converted into Nash Light Sixes.



The Nash was a known and respected automobile brand that was also the name of the company's founder. Production was stopped for two days while Nash hubcaps, emblems, and radiator shells were trucked to Racine where all unshipped Ajax brand cars were converted into Nash badged automobiles. Likewise, changeover kits were sent to dealers to retrofit all unsold cars by removing the Ajax badges such as those found on the hubcaps. However, some cars included "Ajax Six, Nash-built" on the Moto-Meter label and an Ajax Motors logo on the serial number tag.

Nash even made the kits available at no charge to consumers who bought Ajax cars, but did not want to own an orphaned make automobile, to protect the investment they had made in a Nash Motors product.[14] Because of this, few unmodified original Ajax cars have survived.

Guessed correctly by Peter Taylor.

This Month's Mystery Vehicle

This continental marque holds an important place in motorsport history.

Contact: Iain Ross Mob: 0409 027 392 or Email: imgross@bigpond.com





Notes of the AOMC Delegates Meeting. Saturday August 16th, at 1.00pm

Venue: Maldon Vintage Machinery & Museum

There were 71 attendees representing 55 clubs. There were also 16 apologies submitted.

VicRoads/CPS Report: Keith Mortimer reported that on 20 May 2025, members of the AOMC and Federation executive committees met with VicRoads staff. The main focus was VicRoads' early proposal to improve the online permit renewal system. This new system aims to help club secretaries better track members' permit renewals, simplify the renewal process for permit holders, and reduce secretaries' workload through online membership endorsements. The proposed solution centres on a digital approach where clubs endorse renewals before they become due, enabling members to pay for their renewals online. Permits that have not been endorsed by the club will remain ineligible for renewal, consistent with the current process. VicRoads is still developing this proposal and the supporting online system and will continue to consult with peak bodies as the project progresses.

The meeting also considered electronic logbooks via the VicRoads app, including the possibility of a transition period where both paper logbooks and the app would be available. Work is ongoing to ensure end to end process is understood and all stakeholders are engaged appropriately.

Questions from the floor: Are VicRoads planning to introduce custom plates? Keith responded that this was not on the table at present.

Brenton Stephen (Echuca District HVC) asked if everything is going digital, as there are permit holders who do not have access to digital technology? Keith responded that they are looking at this as an option, not as an exclusive system. He also noted that AOMC and VicFed have raised similar concerns at their joint meetings with VicRoads.

Dennis Dawson (Hamilton & District HVC) Asked about the possibility of getting a short permit for moving vehicles? Not all collector cars have permits and need to arrange when moving. Keith responded that this has not been raised in discussions but is happy to take on board and raise with VicRoads.

Apprentice & Business Support Grants: These were launched at the May meeting. Keith urged delegates to take this back to their clubs and encourage applications from businesses that supply vital services to clubs. Full details on the grants are available on the AOMC website.

The first awards will be made on Saturday October 18th at the Club & Trade Showcase being held at Penrite's headquarters in Dandenong Sth.

Treasurer's Report: Mark Fenton reported that as of 31st July 2025 AOMC has \$281,009 cash at bank with \$9735 outstanding from membership and MembershipPLUS invoices due.

This year's invoicing has been done a little differently to address concerns that clubs were not receiving the invoices sent, and this seems to have been more successful this year, so thank you for making your payments more promptly this year. We will continue to send reminders about outstanding invoices but this has not been as problematic as previous years.

There have however been some payments that are not able to be identified, so if you keep receiving reminders about an invoice you believe has been paid then please contact Howard in the AOMC office to see if any of these payments belong to your club.

This year sees the start of the MembershipPLUS affiliation program and this has introduced some new office accounting and communication processes which seem to be working well. A separate report on the MembershipPLUS launch will be presented later in the meeting.

The annual financial reporting is now under way to present at the next AGM with no expected concerns, while BAS reporting is up to date and tax returns will be prepared in due course.

Overall, we remain in a strong financial position to fund ongoing activities including the launch of the AOMC MembershipPLUS Insurance scheme and other programs identified in our strategic plans.

Keith Mortimer acknowledged the work that Mark puts in as treasurer.

AOMC Events 2025: Club & Trade Expo Saturday October 18th Last year we used Shannons Showrooms and invited clubs to promote themselves and opened up to the general public. That event was reasonably successful, and participants were surveyed to find out what could be done better. Penrite attended that event as a participant and have offered their facility to host the event this year. Last year there were 15 clubs and 25 traders displaying. This year there can be more



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Classifieds

FOR SALE AND WANTED

The Vintage Drivers Club acts as a venue for sellers to list cars and parts and buyers to purchase cars and parts also to post wanted advertisements. Free advertising is offered for members and for non-members who may have vehicles or parts of interest to club members. Wanted Advertisements are for members only. Advertisements will run for three months after which they will only be continued only by agreement between the advertiser and the editor or web site coordinator.

The Vintage Drivers Club gives no undertaking or representations accepts no liability or responsibility and has no control regarding: (a) the accuracy or details in the advertisements; (b) the quality or safety of the items advertised; (c) the transactions between vendors and buyers.

Advertisements for private sale of registered vehicles must comply with the current Motor Traders Act and must contain the cash price of the vehicle, registration number, engine number and chassis or VIN number. Club permit vehicles are considered to be unregistered.

FOR SALE

1928 Buick standard 6 Tourer

Featured in issue 775 October 2022 of our magazine.

The article is very explanatory, so I refer you to the issue for info. on the vehicle. Starts and runs beautifully!

Really well restored example selling due to difficulty with driver access due to size and age.

Test drive and examination on a hoist is welcome.

We are asking \$26,000 O.N.O.

We live close to Ballarat.

Contact Peter Fitzgerald Ph. 0428361529



FOR SALE

1924 Ford TT Flat Top Truck

Reluctant sale but no longer have storage space for the old girl. Is fitted with Warford 3 speed gearbox on final drive. All new tyres and rear back rims. Needs a little work to keep it reliable. Engine No. 1251.

Currently on nontransferable Club Reg. 8040. \$15,000 ONO. Ian Morley 0427180418



FOR SALE

1929 Model A Ford tourer. This is a Broken Hill car restored by Bruce Lord, a well known restorer in the area and owner of a very nice collection of cars that he personally restored. Bruce virtually never sells a car but this one left is ownership as part of a deal for another car he wanted. After the deal, it sat for many years without use until the current owner decided to find it a new home. To prepare the car for sale, he arranged with the Model A Ford Club of South Australia to recommission it. It now runs very well with VERY few miles on a total restoration. It is located in Broken Hill. Asking price is \$25,000 OBO Ring the owner (Greg) on 0428 858 854. Greg lives about 300 km out of Broken hill so contact by phone may be patchy,



otherwise contact him by email borrona@bigpond.com

FOR SALE

1924 Stoewer Model D3 2 seater with storage boot at rear Engine and gear box reconditioned body in good condition Fully restored by Peter Mifsud (dec)

All receipts and updates from Up the Creek Workshop Castlemaine who completed the mechanical work on the Stoewer available Available for viewing in the outer western suburbs of Melbourne Contact Rowan Mifsud rowanmifsud@gmail. com 0424176547



FOR SALE

1928 Dodge Senior 6 peacock blue black guards on 19" Budd wire wheels very good mechanical condition excellent interior in grey some minor paint needs after 35 years together with some spares. Selling only to downsize @\$45,000 Denis Robertshaw 0407 533 342 photos on request

FOR SALE

1923 Amilcar C4 roadster in excellent condition Monobloc engine of 1050cc, 3-speed gearbox, inline, four-cylinder, with two main white-metal main and big-end bearings, splash-feed, thermo-syphon. Electric starter motor or hand crank to start.

During our ownership it has had new coachwork, and a complete engine and gearbox rebuild.

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Price: \$40,000 including a spare engine block and some tools. Located in Melbourne with club permit. Engine/Chassis no. 9198

Contact Bruce 0458 590 773, serious buyers only.



FOR SALE

Early 1930's Reo six wheel equipped Coupe
Requiring full restoration, Motor diff, gearbox
and wheels all there
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Contact Steve Tasker 0438 531 271



FOR SALE

1927 Buick tourer, 115" wheelbase, six cylinder with down draft carb.
Engine has had crack repair,
many period accessories, tyres
less than 500Ks, runs well.
Spare engine, transmission and
box of bits included. On club
permit.
Engine No 1755589. \$24,000
Contact Warren Werrett
0427 956 845



FOR SALE - Owners Manuals.

1920(circa) International Speed Truck model "S",
114 pages. \$100.00.
1923 Auburn model 6-43. 70 pages. \$100.00.
1925(circa) Auburn model 6-66. 55 pages.
\$80.00.
1928 Standard 9. 42pages \$100.00.
1927 Vauxhall (R type) 20-60 h.p. 74pages.
\$250.00.
1928(circa) Citroen 2.5 ltr. 6 cylinder. 13-30 h.p.
also 4cylinder.48 pages. \$80.00.
1928 Citroen 12-24 h.p. 32 pages. \$80.00.
All manuals are originals.
Graeme Edward. 0409850192.

FOR SALE

1925 Dodge 4 rolling chassis lots of spares go with it Disc wheels and 24
inch wood spoke wheels folding hood frames one hood bow numerous
other parts from a 40 year collection carbies vac tanks hub caps@1650.
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and pinion some
repair needed on
pinion teeth do-able
by Jack Mc Namara
Diffs \$40
Denis Robertshaw
0407533342



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The family of a former member have various
vintage parts that are available free to anyone
who wants them. This is just a few there are
many more. Make unknown. Contact Shayne
Guley email ksguley@bigpond.com



FOR SALE

1923 Dodge 4 Van Project. Chassis Restored,
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Shafts : Rebuilt Clutch. Head Lights Re-Silvered & Nickel Rims.
Ring David Dewar for more details 0419 371 441

FOR SALE

1927 Standard Tourer.
This is a 6 cylinder, overhead valve tourer. It has undergone a full
restoration in Perth about 15 years ago and has not done a lot of work since.
It spent its working life in West Australia and was probably originally bodied
there.
It is believed to have a 2.7 litre engine with a four speed gearbox and be a
model 18/42 which is quite rare. It
starts and stops on command, and
is a comfortable tourer at circa 40
mph. Engine No 84126, Chassis
No 84197. Currently unregistered
(but on Club Permit System 6717)
Car is in Ballarat. Asking \$25,000.
Contact Damian O'Doherty on
0417 565 408



WANTED

Right hand guard for 1946 Chevrolet
Fleetmaster, with headlight fittings if possible.
Please call Ken 0419 536 232 or email
kwmain50@gmail.com

FOR SALE

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x 1.4mm thick. Suitable for radiator tank
fabrication. Located in Wodonga area. At cost
\$910.00. Colin Maginnity 0438 264 365

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1918 Dodge cowl Sandblasted and primed
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Denis Robertshaw 0407 533 342



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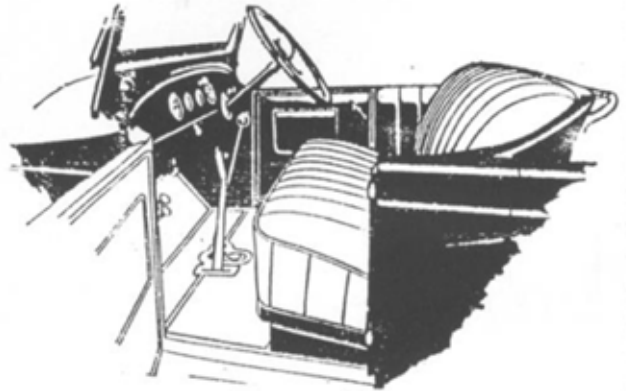
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