

# BACKFIRE

Volume 56 No 10 March 2023

PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219

Club meetings: 7.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues each month. Clubroom: Geelong Showgrounds, 79 Breakwater Rd East Geelong.



*Backfire* is the monthly newsletter of the Western District Historic Vehicle Club (Reg No A00011857H).  
Member of the Federation of Victorian Veteran, Vintage & Classic Vehicle Clubs.



[www.wdhvcgeelong.com](http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com)



[WesternDistrictHistoricVehicleClub](https://www.facebook.com/WesternDistrictHistoricVehicleClub)



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<b>LIBRARIAN</b>	Gary McCredden (Sadie)	5275 2544
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<b>LADIES COMMITTEE CO-ORDINATORS</b>	Pam Shea (Gus) 0487 696 097	
<b>RGAPS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE</b>	vacant	
<b>LIFE MEMBERS</b>	Max Tucker	Trevor Schneider
	Fred Harris	Judith Matthews
<b>CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR</b>	Jon Breedveld	
<b>ERIC BAKER MEMORIAL AWARD</b>	Not awarded during Covid	



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## *The President's* Idle Chatter

Hi all,

It's a welcome change to have our events back to normal. We had a great social day at the membership renewal in Feb. There is nothing better than a BBQ social gathering at this time of the year when the weather is nice and we get our precious older cars out for an outing. Next year we will have to make sure it doesn't clash with the Torquay Motor Show.

We also had an excellent talk at the February club night on road safety around the word and learnt how much Victoria has led in this important quest for continuous improvement. A different perspective to what we normally hear in the media.

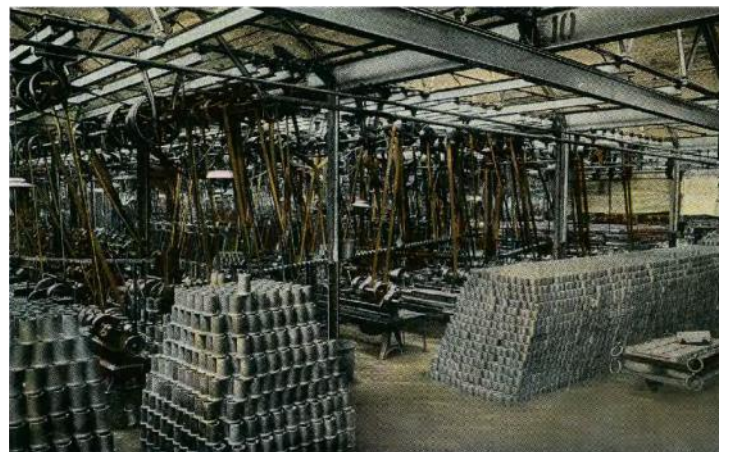
This month we have our last General Meeting before the AGM in April. Don't forget if you haven't done so already to renew your membership before the end of the month. Also if you are thinking about getting more involved in the Club and perhaps taking on a role on the Committee then nominations need to be in by the end of the March club night. It is a great way to understand more about how our club runs and have an input as well as getting to better know other members.

The Swap Committee is up and running preparing for this year's swap on 13 May. A lot of members have their names down but there is always room for more.

Particularly jobs on the gates and parking, where many people are needed, and this helps keep the shifts shorter for everyone.

Stay safe and I hope to see you out and about.

David Mitchell



*"Piston machining department. Veritable jungle of belts and shafts."*  
Postcards showing the Ford plant in 1917.

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No 620 OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.  
HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

## PRESIDING

President David Mitchell welcomed the 82 members and our guest speaker (Brett and Rhonda).

Our thoughts are with the families on the recent passing of Duncan McIntosh and Graeme Walker's daughter.

## APOLOGIES

Kevin & Julie Wilby, Gary McCredden, Graeme Walker, Lindsay Rogers, Eva Barwise, Rod & Lorraine Roach, David Perkins, Barbara Thompson, Rhonda Alexander, Tim Paech, Noreen Mellington, Doug & Jennie Green, Ray van Galen, Frank McKenzie, John Bailey and Vern & Joan Stott.

Moved: Jim Coates

Seconded: Ken Batson Carried

## SICK LIST

Paul Strickland

## MINUTES

Given that Backfire was not published in January, the minutes of the previous two General Meetings were the subject of motions at the meeting.

The minutes of the December meeting as published in the Backfire are confirmed as correct.

Moved: Ken Parry

Seconded: Fred Dossier Carried

The minutes of the January meeting as published in the Backfire are confirmed as correct.

Moved: Max McKenzie

Seconded: Jan Clissold Carried

## CORRESPONDENCE (Fred)

### INWARD

#### Letters In

- Bendigo Bank - Statement of Account
- Coral Nicholson - Thank you card for the Club's thoughts and sympathy on passing of Brian.
- Gary & Sadie McCredden - resigning from the Club

#### Emails In

- Federation - reminder that the Bendigo National Swap is on the 11th & 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023.
- Hamilton & District Veteran Vintage Classic Drivers Club - invitation to attend their June Long Weekend Event on the 9th to the 12<sup>th</sup>.
- All Ford Day - invitation to anyone to sell Ford items and also members with T & A's can free entry when lodging your entry online via free code.

- Hobsons Bay Men's Shed - invitation to attend their event 26th February at Altona
- Craig Abbey - resignation from the club

### OUTWARD

#### Letters Out

- Easy Geelong Rotary - inviting them to cater for our annual swap.

#### Emails Out

Nil

Moved: Libby Booley

Seconded: Garry Tonkin Carried

## TREASURER'S REPORT (Maurice)

The Treasurer reported on receipts and payments since the previous meeting and submitted accounts to be passed for payment.

Moved: Maurice Healy

Seconded: Libby Booley Carried

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR (David M for John)

No report this month. Our guest speaker will present immediately following the meeting.

## LIBRARY (Gary)

No report this month. As Gary has resigned from the Club, David called for volunteer to take on the role. Please contact a committee member if you are interested.

Thanks to Gary for his many years of service to the Club.

## DINE OUT (Sharyn)

North Shore picnic area this month

## EDITOR (Jon)

No report or issues this month.

## WEBSITE (Damien)

No report this month.

## FEDERATION REPORT (David P)

No report this month, but David will report on the recent Federation meeting at our next Club meeting.

## COMMITTEE REPORT (Tony)

The recent meeting discussed the following:

- A professional photographer has offered to take photos of individual member's cars.
- In March we will have 4 new members and a further 4 in April.
- More volunteers are needed for the Swap.

## MERCHANDISE (David M)

Logbook Reminder stickers are still available. About 20 members present said they would be interested in a Club branded wider brim hat.

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd

### TINKER DAY (Dallas)

The February event was in the Botanic Gardens. Its a city asset that many locals don't know about! The following run will be on March 9<sup>th</sup> at Stuart Harvey's place in Moriac.

Dallas is looking for help while he is on his annual winter migration north. Give him a call if you can help.

### MARS BAR AWARD (Ray)

Not this month.

### VEHICLE PERMITS (Gus)

VicRoads have had registration production problems so always check your permit paperwork.

A number of VicRoads rule changes are under consideration including permit transfer on the vehicle owner's death.

Talk to Gus if you need more detail.

### RALLY REPORTS/EVENTS (David M )

See the Backfire for details on events when scheduled, including:

- Next Coffee Run to the Anglesea Golf Club on March 2nd;
- Economy Run in March; and
- BBQ in the bush in April.

Events attended by members include:

- The Membership BBQ was a great success again with many members attending. Thanks to the Membership and BBQ crews for their excellent work on the day.
- Thanks to Wayne Moodie for his hospitality on the recent coffee run to the Barrabool Maze.
- Several members went to the Torquay Motor Show. John Hickford attended in Warrick's Lancia.
- Garry Tonkin went to the Snake Valley Swap in Lang Lang and needs help in finding a Ballarat car on display.
- Fred Dossier went on a run to the lake in Ballarat.

### LONG DISTANCE RALLY (Sharyn)

Likely to be in the Griffith area in September.

### TECH NIGHT (Peter)

*All Things Exhausts* at the next tech night.

### SWAP MEET (David M)

More volunteers needed!

### KITCHEN (Pam)

Thanks for the kitchen helpers a membership BBQ.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

Barry Collinson Garage Sale on April 15th.

### FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

- Lindsay Hose is looking for a small modern car for his grand daughter.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

**Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 14 March 2023 in the clubrooms.**

- Leigh Dwyer



## No More Gary's Giggles

### Legendary Librarian Closes the Book

After many years as a club member, including stints organising the Avoca Weekend Rally and the Club's book collection, our legendary librarian has decided that changing circumstances meant he and Sadie needed to resign from the Club.

Thank you Gary for your friendship and the jokes you told during the "Librarians' Report" - a highlight of the monthly meetings.

You told a traditional Aussie joke in a way that few others could - and sometimes, as few others could get away with! Your love for the country towns and people of the Mallee-Wimmera shone through. We even learned something about the club's wonderful collection of technical, reference and general interest reading from you.

\*\*\*\*\*

Until a new librarian finds his feet, Dallas has sent in a few of his "punnies" to fill the gap. Thanks Dallas.

\*\*\*\*\*

Student says to his English teacher, thanks for teaching me the meaning of the word "plethora"..... it means a lot.

\*\*\*\*\*

I received an email explaining how to read maps backwards.....It was spam.

\*\*\*\*\*

A restaurant customer asked the waiter: "How do you prepare the chicken?"  
The waiter replied, "We just tell them straight out they're going to die."

\*\*\*\*\*

## PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Membership renewal fees are due by 31 March. If you have cars carrying Red Plates that are registered through our club and we do not receive your completed membership renewal form and money by 31 March, VicRoads considers those cars to be unregistered and you cannot legally drive them on public roads.

If you no longer wish to be a club member, please email or post your resignation to the Secretary, Fred Harris.

# Rethinking Road Safety

It is not often that a speaker causes you to rethink long-held attitudes. However Brett Harman did this for me when he was the guest speaker at the February meeting.

Brett spoke about the efforts being made across the Asia Pacific to reduce death and injury in road accidents by changing approaches to road safety in both individuals and the authorities.

He presented some sobering statistics in support of the case for reducing speed as one major way of reducing road trauma.

Brett is the step son of club member Ken Batson and was in Australia for a family occasion. He is usually based in Kuala Lumpur as the Asia Pacific Manager for the Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP), so we were fortunate that he could spend some time at the Clubrooms talking to us.

The GRSP is hosted by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. It has regional Hubs in Kuala Lumpur and Budapest, and was founded in 1999 after the IFRC's 1998 World Disasters Report identified catastrophic number of traffic injuries, deaths and dramatic consequences on people and their livelihoods.

The GRS Partnership has the ambitious vision of "a world free of road crash death and injury", with the aim of fostering "The sustainable reduction of road crash death & injury, with a focus on low and middle income countries". It works with a wide range of global organisations with links to road safety and employs professionals with expertise in road safety that includes academic research, project management, communications, journalism, advocacy, road policing, education and training.

Brett came to his present position after more than 30 years in policing, including wide experience in road policing and road safety, and specialist senior strategic, emergency/event management and planning roles.



Brett introduced his topic by referring to an early horseless carriage fatality, in Middlesex, England, in 1896. Two occupants were thrown from a Benz Motorwagen when a back wheel shed its rim at around 20kph. The coroner found the deaths were due to the fact that the wheel was not made from "good English oak". He said: "This must never be allowed to happen again."

But of course it has, with someone dying from road trauma somewhere in the world every 24 seconds!

In 2018 the WHO estimated there were 1.35M road crash deaths globally per year. This breaks down to about 3,700 deaths per day; 154 deaths per hour or 38 deaths every 15 minutes. Yet there is relatively little community knowledge of the scale of road traffic crashes.

Add to that some 55 million injuries, 20 million of them serious. This translates to 136,000 road trauma injuries daily, 55,000 of them serious. Many lead to permanent or temporary disability, which presents a number of challenges in low and middle-income countries. Worldwide, road crashes are the #1 cause of death for 5-29 year olds.

## The Hidden Reality

Brett's presentation included these statistics:

- 15 MILLION people are likely to die as a result of a road crash between now and 2030
- 500 MILLION likely to be injured as a result of a road crash between now and 2030
- It will cost the community an estimated USD \$24 TRILLION in crash costs up to 2030

Yet road crashes are mostly predictable and preventable!

Ctd Page 12

# Club Legends

## Max Tucker

*Our club includes people with a wealth of knowledge and experience that we wish to preserve. This is the third in a series about these "Club Legends".*

Max was born in 1938 in Geelong. He attended Geelong Tech and his first job was as apprenticed to his father as a carpenter. It was his happy job: he didn't want to do anything else. Not many people can say that about their working life.

He married the beautiful Gwen in 1962 and they proceeded to have five children and now have eight grandies.

His first car was a 1956 Ford Prefect, but he needed a work ute so he bought a Zephyr.

His first restoration was a 1930 Model A sedan.

He has the roadster and a ute and a truck, which I didn't see. Also a very nice red Triumph TR4 which he doesn't drive now because as he says it's very hard to get in and out of, but he turns it on occasionally and admires the tone and thunder.

His dream car is a classic Mustang convertible (mine too).

Max was a foundation member of the WDHVC and also a foundation member of the Model A club.

Gwen and Max toured in a Pontiac which he bought from new. They did long distance rallies and Norm Lehmann's Battlers Runs, along with their five kids and had a great time. Gwen had a child on her knee and the others were crammed in the back seat. Oh they were the days!!!

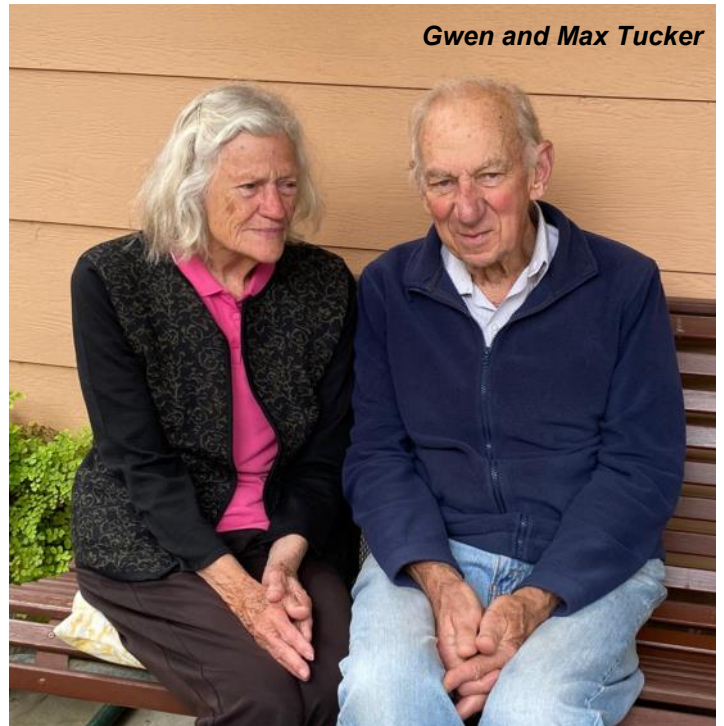
Max was also on the Federation Executive Committee, touring other clubs to show them how to run their clubs. He also said he never saw one as good as ours.

Apart from cars Max had a great interest in model planes, building and flying them with great success. They would fly at Adelaide and Queenscliff. He was an Australian champion. Chasing free flying planes kept him fit.

Max has great insights into the club and as he said when the club got the rooms at the Showgrounds people seemed to relax and enjoy the club much better than when they had to pack up after every meeting.

Max and Gwen said the club has been a wonderful group to be involved with all the family involved. Many a time they put their daughter to sleep by putting her on the back seat of the Pontiac and going for a drive. It was a different era with everybody having old second cars.

When you talk to Max and Gwen you get to understand how much they love the car club. As Max says, you never see anyone standing on their own

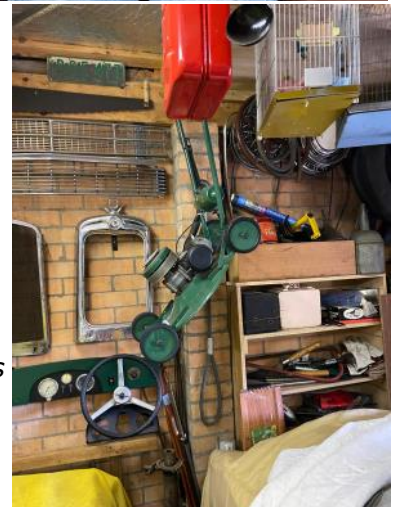


Gwen and Max Tucker

at meeting as someone will go and talk to them. The long friendships they have made will stay with them forever.

Max is a true gentleman and also a legend.

- Sharyn Harris



Max's "very nice red Triumph TR4"

# Not The Great Mars Bar Competition

## The March Mystery



No - I haven't got the keys to the Mars Bar cupboard, so I can't offer any more than an elephant stamp and a pat on the back to the person who can give me the history of this WDHVC badge. It is about the size of a 5 cent piece and judging by the chips in the enamel, it has been around for a while.

Evelyn Hill showed me the badge when I was collecting some of his delicious honey. He didn't know it's history and I certainly don't.

But I am sure there is a long-time member who can tell us when it was made and how it was intended to be used.

So get in touch if you know and I'll fill everyone else in next month.

- Ed

Western District Historic Vehicle Club Inc Presents

## GEELONG BAY CITY SWAP MEET

Sat 13th May 2023 Gates open 7am

Geelong Showgrounds (Melways Ref 452 E10)



### Costs:

- \*Gate entry: Adult/Teenage \$10 per person, Under 13 yrs Free
- \*Outdoor site: \$20 per 10 x 6m site + gate entry costs per person  
(no booking required for outdoor sites)
- \*Limited indoor sites Booking req'd. Call/email for details/availability
- \*Area for display and sale of special interest vehicles  
(\$20 per car and gate entry costs per person)
- \*Parking for non sellers at Geelong Racecourse, Breakwater Rd.
- \*Geelong Mobile ATM facilities on site

### Friday night: Camp sites available for stallholders only.

Entry from 5pm. Gates will close at 9pm sharp. (site + per person entry costs)

### Rules: Strictly no animals allowed in showgrounds.

No fires permitted in any way. No unauthorised food/drink vendors.  
No riding of a bicycle, scooter, motorcycle or rec vehicle.  
Disability scooter permitted but must not exceed 4kph.

### Updates: on the Geelong Bay City Swap Meet Facebook page

**Contact:** email: [secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com](mailto:secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com)

Ph: 0417 306 177 (no texts)

WDHVC PO Box 200 Newcomb Vic 3219

## Other Events

Source: [swap-meets\(ozwrenches.com\)](http://swap-meets(ozwrenches.com)) and individual event flyers

- March 4** **Ballarat Vintage Swap Meet.** Old Ballan Racecourse, Racecourse Road, Ballan. Stallholder open 7 AM. \$20 per site. Public: open 8 AM. Adults \$15. Children under 16 free. Enquiries: Jason 0409 557 541 or Ben 0411 189 520.
- March 12** **Yarra Glen Swap Meet.** Yarra Glen Racecourse, Armstrong Grove, Yarra Glen. Open: sellers 6:30 AM. Buyers 7:30 AM. Show and shine 8 AM. Site fees from \$25. Entry \$10 (children under 12 free).
- Mar 12** **Swanpool Motor Festival** Swanpool, 2426 Midland Hwy, Swanpool
- March 13** **Seymour Annual Show & Shine.** Kings Park, Seymour. 8 AM start (stallholders 6 AM). Display cars \$10 per car including all occupants. Public: gold coin entry. Enquiries [secretary@seymouranddistrictcarclub.com.au](mailto:secretary@seymouranddistrictcarclub.com.au) or Judy 0407 562 003.
- Mar 18 2023** **Koroit Swap Meet** Koroit Football Ground
- Mar 19 2023** **Maldon Swap Meet** Maldon Racecourse Reserve (Vic)
- Mar 19 2023** **Leongatha Swap Meet** Leongatha Showgrounds
- March 24 - 26** **The Aussie B 40 Rally** Hamilton Victoria. A rally for people under 40 years old driving cars built before 1940. Details: Stuart McCorkelle on [events@vdc.org.au](mailto:events@vdc.org.au)
- March 25 - 26** **Rob Roy Revival.** Details: [robroyrevival.mgcc.com.au](http://robroyrevival.mgcc.com.au)
- March 25 - 26** **Goulburn Valley Vintage Rally & Tractor Pull.** Wunghnu Recreation Reserve, Goulburn Valley Highway, Wunghnu. Incorporating the **Federation Wanganui Picnic** on 26 March. Details contact Lloyd 0458 299 466.
- Apr 1 2023** **Horsham Swap Meet** Horsham Market and Swap Meet, Saturday, Showgrounds
- Apr 2 2023** **Castlemaine Swap Meet** Camp Reserve, Castlemaine, Sunday,
- Apr 2 2023** **Scoresby Motorcycle Swap Meet** Scoresby Motorcycle Only Swap Meet, Nat Sr/team Centre, Scoresby
- Apr 16 2023** **Kerang Swap Meet** Kerang Showgrounds
- Apr 16 2023** **Lancefield Swap Meet** Lancefield Park Chauncey St. Contact Pam 0414491749
- Apr 16 2023** **Mirboo Nth Motorbike Swap Meet** Mirboo Nth Motorbike Only Swap Meet
- Apr 22 2023** **Echuca Swap Meet** Echuca Rotary swap meet, Saturday 22 April, 0483230908
- May 7 2023** **HTPAA Antique Hand Tool Market** St. Anthony's School Hall, 164 Neerim Rd, Caulfield East



# Events Calendar

Updates will be sent by email and posted on Facebook.  
(Please pass on to those without email addresses.)

With both the Flu and Covid in the community, masks are recommended when in close proximity to others.



**Thursday 2 March, Coffee Run** Anglesea Golf Club 45 Golf Links Rd Anglesea. It doesn't open until 10am. Hope the weather is respectful of our requirements on the day, warm without being windy or wet. Yours in Coffee Drinking!  
*Contact: Col 0425 822 026*

**Friday 3 March Backfire folding morning** 9am Clubrooms.  
*Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938*

**Thursday 9 March Tinker Day** We are going to Stuart Harvey's place at 580 Cape Otway Rd. Moriac to look at his trucks, cars and motorcycles. Those close by might like to go straight there. Otherwise, be at the clubrooms before 10 o'clock as we will be departing smartly at 10. Would someone take the lead and guide the group from the clubrooms to Stuart's place please? Bring everything you need to sit, sip and munch. He has a lovely garden and plenty of shade.  
*Contact: Dallas 0432 172 171.*

**Tuesday 14 March General Meeting** 7.30pm in Clubrooms.

**Wednesday 15 March Dine Out** Great Western Hotel 6pm. *Contact Fred 0417 306 177*

**Tuesday 21 February Committee Meeting** 7.30pm in clubrooms.

**Sunday 26 March Club Run** BBQ in the bush at the You Yangs. Numbers are required by Tuesday 21 March, either at the meeting or call Ken 0437 254 351. Venue - You Yangs lower picnic ground. Meet at North Geelong Railway Station carpark, Melbourne Rd. Depart at 10.45 am sharp.  
*Contact: Ken Parry 0437 254 351.*

**Monday 27 March April Backfire Deadline** 5pm. *Contact: Jon B 0417 311 441*

**Tuesday 28 March Tech Night** "Motorcycles." Bring along anything motorcycle related. You can bring your motorcycle and park it in the garage. All welcome. Wear your name badge and get a FREE CHOCOLATE FROG! Be there at 7pm, so we can set up for a 7.30pm start.  
*Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938.*

**Friday 31 March Backfire folding morning** 9am Clubrooms.  
*Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938*

**The 2023 Bay City Swap Meet is ON! Put 13 May in the diary.**  
**BUT this will be our Club's LAST Swap UNLESS a new Swap Director and more helpers volunteer.**

**Help Needed.** Tinker Days for July, August and possibly September have not been filled. I am looking for some ideas and someone to organise and run Tinker Days for these months, as I will be away. Please let me know if you can help out. *Contact: Dallas 0432 172 171.*

## Other Events (ctd)

**May 6 & 7 Naracoorte Swap Meet.** Naracoorte Showgrounds, Smith St. Sat 7 AM – 5 PM. Sun 7 AM – noon. Public entry \$5 Stallholders Fri 5 May 12 noon till 9 PM. Outdoor sites \$25. Show & shine registration 8 AM till 10:30 AM Saturday. \$5 per vehicle. Judging 11 AM. Enquiries call 0408 854 658 (7:56 PM). Email Naracoorte [hvc@gmail.com](mailto:hvc@gmail.com)

**May 13 2023 Geelong Swap Meet** Geelong Showgrounds, Breakwater Rd. Gates open 7am. [secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com](mailto:secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com)

**May 21 2023 Lockington Swap Meet** Lockington, Vic

**May 27-28 Historic Winton.** Winton motor Raceway, Benalla, Victoria. Details [www.historicwinton.org](http://www.historicwinton.org)

**Jun 10-11 2023 Daylesford Collectables Fair** Daylesford Town Hall

**Jun 11 2023 Maldon Swap Meet** Maldon Racecourse Reserve (Vic)

**Aug 28 to 1 Sept Federation Open Tour** from Marong through Kerang, Swan Hill, Echuca and Shepparton. Spend time spend in the recent flood affected areas of northern Victoria and support their rebuilding efforts. Activities planned include museum visits, private tractor and bowser collections, Echuca Beer Shed and Shepparton attractions.

**Nov 11 & 12 Bendigo National Swap Meet.** Entry: Sat only \$15. Sun only \$5. Children 15 and under free. Public: Gates open Sat 6 AM. Sun 7 AM. Sheds open 7 AM. Details [www.bendigowswap.com.au](http://www.bendigowswap.com.au). Site bookings 0427 446 660. General enquiries 0434 730 822. [info@bendigowswap.com.au](mailto:info@bendigowswap.com.au)

**Nov 18-19 2023 Daylesford Collectables fair** Daylesford Town Hall

# RALLIES & RUNS

## February Coffee Run – The Barrabool Maze

Around 40 members enjoyed tea or coffee and scones & cream on a sunny morning at the Barrabool Maze on Thursday 2 February. Owner and WDHVC member Wayne Moodie very kindly opened up for us and served up delicious fresh scones & cream.

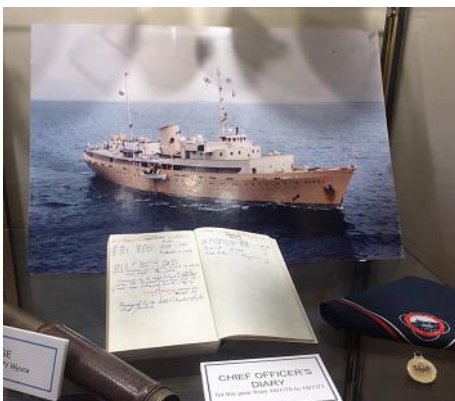
As well as the inevitable catch up with one another, there was lots to see. The Mesmerizing Maze tempted some, while others enjoyed the gardens. Wayne also showed us his collection of vehicles and other curios. (My favorite was the pretty little Morris Minor convertible that Wayne says he plans to sell – sorry Wayne: my shed is full and my funds depleted.)

*Photos: Libby Booley, Marg Hose & Ed.*



## Maritime Museum Run

Those who ventured down to the Queenscliff Maritime Museum on Sunday 19 February had lots to see and sunshine to boot. As an added bonus, Rally Director Ken had arranged for two volunteer guides to be on hand. The exhibits and displays came to life as they were explained and described. So much more interesting to hear from an expert!



*Photos: Marg Hose*

# RALLIES & RUNS

## Membership Renewal BBQ

The Club's Membership Renewal BBQ has emerged from the Covid vacuum and again demonstrated how effective and enjoyable it is as a stress free way of paying your annual membership.

Introduced before we were all quarantined by C19, this Sunday afternoon event spreads the load on the volunteers who see to the finances and paperwork.



Instead of waiting in line before a meeting, those at the BBQ enjoyed a mild day and each other's company. As well as the food and drink provided by the cooks on the BBQ and ladies in the kitchen, there were stories to catch up on and vehicles to admire.

Members had three hours during which to renew their membership on the day. While some came and went, many stayed around for the whole afternoon and made the most of an enjoyable social occasion.



**(For those who still haven't renewed, membership fees will be collected before the 14 March meeting. Membership is due by 31 March.)**



Photos: Ed.

## Maritime Museum Run (more photos)



## Rethinking Road Safety (from Page 6)

Brett said the key road safety challenges were that:

- Humans are not good at assessing risk
- Laws are not always seen as fair or necessary
- Changing attitudes and behaviour takes resources and time
- Human beings and human behaviour are complex
- If people do not know what is safe, they cannot demand safety

People have a limited understanding of the link between their behaviours and their (a) risk of being in a crash and (b) the severity of the outcome if they are involved in a crash.

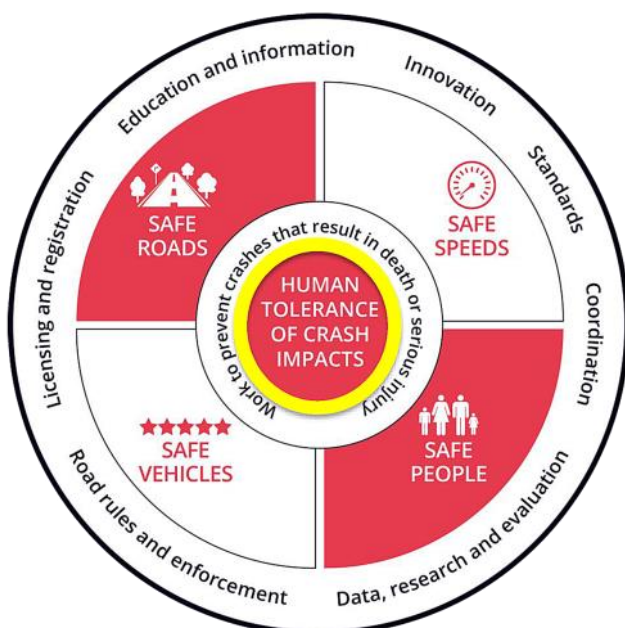
They are not good at assessing risk. There is an illusion of control (I'm a good driver, I can control vehicle. I am familiar with local roads. I am only going a short distance.)

Research and experience shows that enforcement can change behaviour, which can change attitudes and levels of moral acceptance. There is also a strong track record of changing behaviour and attitudes using enforcement and education, when they are used together.

Reflecting on the community mindset about road safety, Brett questioned why we talk about a plane "crash" and a crane "collapse" but a car "accident". This implies that road deaths and injuries are random, uncontrollable or inevitable, while he says they are predictable and preventable.

Brett spoke about four elements affecting road safety: safe roads; safe vehicles; safe people; and safe speeds. These fit into a complex of factors that can be combined to improve road safety.

### The Safe System Model



Millions of dollars are being spent in initiatives across the world to reduce road trauma, with particular focus on developing countries, where vehicle numbers are burgeoning but infrastructure, enforcement and community attitudes/education may be struggling to keep pace.

Crashes rarely have a single cause. Rather a "causal chain" of events involving road user behaviours (90%), road conditions (30%) and vehicle defects and failures (10%) all contribute.

### Principles of a safe system

Because humans make mistakes and human bodies are injured when subjected to violent forces. Road safety systems need to allow for this, with the key components of a "Safe" approach being the:

- human (biomechanical tolerance);
- vehicle (crashworthiness); and
- road infrastructure (crashworthiness).

Road users responsible for complying with road rules eg. speed limits, licensing and alcohol consumption. System designers and operators are ultimately responsible for design, operation and use of the road transport system.

### Challenges in Modifying Road User Behaviour

People drive as they live. Many studies have confirmed a strong association between on-road behaviour and general behaviour. Risky on-road behaviours often cluster together. Road users are resistant to change. Recidivist drink driving and speeding offenders are over-represented in offences and crashes. Without sustained high levels of enforcement, the deterrent effect of campaigns can be short-lived.

Brett said there were many challenges in implementing a safe system, especially in low/middle income countries. Critically, change required strong institutional leadership. Other factors included the need to identify and adopt innovative safety practices (high, medium & low cost options); enhance the training of police and enforcement agencies; adapt to changing community expectations about emerging transport options; and to leverage safety improvements from other sectors.

He highlighted the fact that Victoria was a leader in implementing road safety legislation. While this had generated the "nanny state" label among some in the community, the rules had brought about cultural change and a steady decline in road crash statistics. This graph shows the correlation between the introduction of road safety measures (many for the first time in the world) and the decrease in road crash deaths.

## Victorian Road Deaths 1970 - 2021



### Safe Speeds

Brett then addressed lowering speed as a major way of reducing death and injury due to road trauma. He said that speeding is a major problem for road safety because it contributes to both the incidence of crashes and the severity of crashes.

Speeding occurs in crashes involving high-risk groups such as young drivers, motor cyclists, very often drivers without a driving licence



Speed is "logically related to mobility – go faster and get there sooner – and is subjectively related to pleasure". (David Shinar, 2007). It is the "everyday crime of the law-abiding"; it's normalised deviant behaviour". (Helen Wells 2011).

Most people admit to "speeding" at some time: nearly half admit to having received a speeding ticket, yet almost all consider themselves law abiding. Despite the scientific facts, low speed enforcement has a bad name!

### Why Speeding is the Primary Problem

A range of driving functions are adversely influenced by increasing speed.

These include: our perception and reaction time and distance; braking distances; probability of exceeding the critical speed of a curve; loss of friction between tyres and the road; loss of stability when turning and braking; less time to notice and react to potential hazards; and other road users may misjudge the speed.

### Speed & Crash Risk Relationship

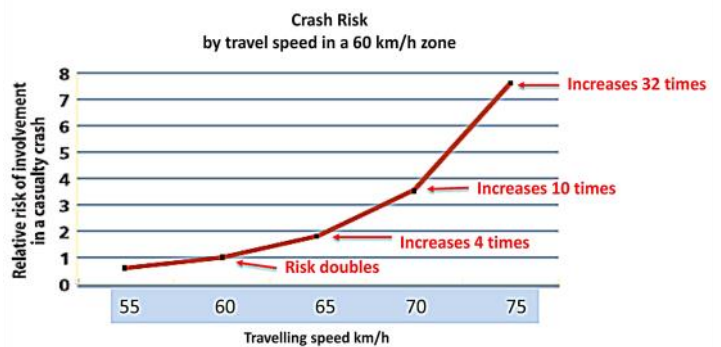
Brett explained that simple physics was behind this: higher speeds mean disproportionately higher kinetic energy – the faster the speed, the heavier the object, the greater the impact and severity of an injury. Our modern-day challenge is to successfully manage the sources of kinetic energy.



A 5% cut in average speed can result in a **30%** reduction in the number of fatal crashes

For this reason he said that urban speed limits should be 50 km/h or less, with the ability to reduce this to 30 km/h or less where there are high concentrations of pedestrians, such as around schools, markets or residential areas. Speed limits need to take account of the type of road, roadside conditions and the volume and type of road users. Thank you for a challenging and informative world view of the steps to reduce road trauma. - Ed.

### SPEED & CRASH RISK RELATIONSHIP

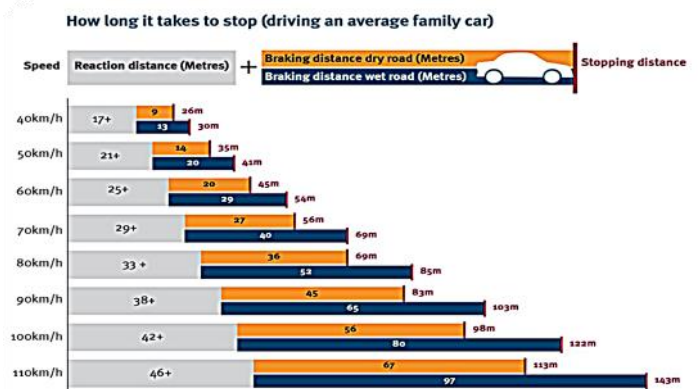


### SPEED & CRASH RISK RELATIONSHIP



Sources: Victoria Police, Australia

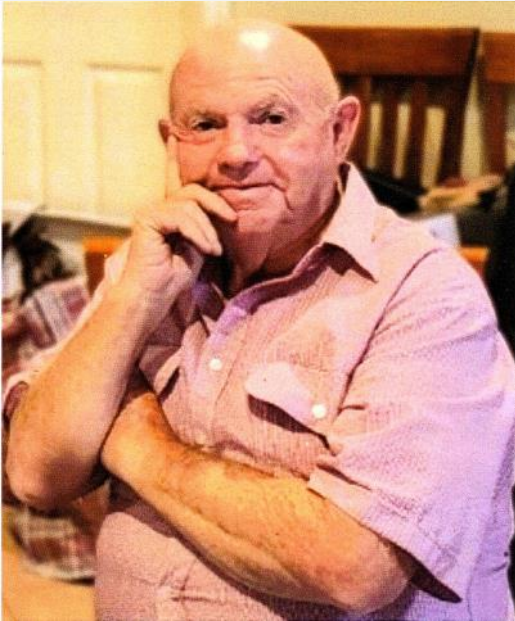
### BRAKING AND STOPPING DISTANCE



Material reproduced with permission from Brett's presentation slides. - Ed

## VALE – DUNCAN McINTOSH

28/11/1946 - 10/2/2023



Duncan passed away suddenly on 10 February 2023. A very large crowd gathered on 20 February at the funeral chapel to honour his memory.

Duncan was born in Scotland on 28 November 1946 and came to Australia in 1956. He was enlisted for National Service in 1967 was posted to Vietnam in 1968, where he served as a tank driver.

Nancy and Duncan married 55 years ago and they have a daughter Kerrie, a son Andrew and seven grandchildren.

Duncan had a keen eye for quality vehicles and loved to display his 1955 Ford Victoria, which he always kept in pristine condition.

Since retiring, Duncan and Nancy have enjoyed some overseas trips and have travelled around Australia three times.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Nancy, the extended family and the grandchildren at this sad time.

*compiled by Trevor Schneider*

## VALE - BRIAN NICHOLSON

31/03/1942 - 07/12/2022

We are saddened to learn of the passing of Club member Brian Nicholson.

Brian was born in Traralgon and in 1959 became an apprentice boiler-maker at the Victorian Railways Newport, which fostered his interest in steam

power and saw him later volunteering at Puffing Billy, Steamrail, Walhalla, Goldfields Railway and Psyche Bend Pump Mildura.

Coral and Brian were married in 1963 and recently celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. They had three children, Susan, Peter (dec), and Kerrie.

In 1964 they moved to Traralgon where Brian worked for the S.E.C. for 33 years, before purchasing a property at Buronga (Mildura) to grow grapes.

They retired to Echuca and became active members of the Echuca Car Club, and the Zephyr Zodiac Club Melbourne. In 2004 Brian and Coral moved to Lara and joined the W.D.H.V.C and actively participated in club activities, meetings and outings and caravan weekends away.

Brian's vehicle interest were a 1973 Holden Statesman, purchased new and kept for 28 years, the 1953 Zephyr Mark 1 and the 1950 Roma



bondwood caravan which was fitted out with numerous authentic period features.

We extend our sympathy to Coral and the family at this sad time.

*Compiled from information proved by Coral to Jeannette Dragt, Max McKenzie & Trevor Schneider*

### Life Quotes

"It isn't the ups and downs that make life difficult: it's the jerks." - *Charlie Chaplin*

The views/comments expressed in the publication of this newsletter are those of the individual contributor and are not necessarily endorsed by the current Committee of the Club. Whilst every care is taken to determine the safety of any technical information provided and the accuracy of the information supplied for inclusion in this newsletter, it is printed in good faith and neither the Committee nor the Club accept any responsibility for any loss or injury incurred by any application of such information.

## FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

### For Sale

#### For Sale 1940 Packard. Straight 8

Man. 3 speed + overdrive. 6 wheel equipped.  
Leather interior.

Travelled about 20,00kms  
since ground up resto

6 years ago. On club  
plates: 6233-H9.

Asking \$55,000.

Call Tony on 0437 453 259.



3/23

#### For Sale VP Commodore Station Wagon In VG

condition. Reg. 81739-H. 252,000 kms. \$6,500.

Call Dick 0417 393 139.

2/23

### Wanted

**Wanted** An external sun visor to suit a 40s  
era car. It needs to be 53 inches [1.35 m] across  
and have the windscreen centre pillar attachment  
point. Call Karl 0413 074 733.

3/23

**Wanted.** Early vacuum fuel tank,  
any make, for current  
project. Call Paul 0417 39 0027 [the-  
trady@outlook.com](mailto:the-trady@outlook.com)

2/23



## KEEP IT IN THE CLUB

**Got a vehicle for sale?**

**Please consider advertising it in  
Backfire first, to give your fellow  
members the first option of buying.**

For sale/wanted ads are free to Members and generally  
appear for **two issues** of *Backfire*. To remove  
advertisements from the newsletter earlier, email  
[editor@wdhvcgeelong.com](mailto:editor@wdhvcgeelong.com) (Ph 0417 311 441).

**Reminder:** All vehicles in the "For Sales" must have  
VIN number & Price or Registration Number & Price,  
otherwise they will be listed under "Clues". Ads for the  
'Clues' section must not refer to any payment that may  
take place by mentioning an amount or 'best offer', etc.

All ads for cars also appear on the **club web site** where  
greater detail and photos (where supplied) can be  
viewed. To see ads, go to

<http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com/wdsale.html>

**All ads remain on the website until you request  
their removal.** To remove an ad from the  
website, email [webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com](mailto:webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com)  
(Ph 0418 587 415).

## 25 Year Badges to be Presented

The following people have reached 25 years of  
WDHVC membership.

- ◇ Jan Clissold
- ◇ Brian & Yvonne Edward
- ◇ David & Loretta Little
- ◇ Kevin & Robyn McBain

We look forward to seeing these people  
at the March meeting, to be presented with  
their 25 year badges



This is Nils Bohlin, an  
engineer at Volvo.

He invented the  
three-point seat belt  
in 1959.

Rather than profit  
from the invention,  
Volvo opened up the  
patent for other  
manufacturers to use  
for no cost, saying "it  
had more value as a  
free life saving tool  
than something to  
profit from".



If undeliverable return to:

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Newcomb VIC 3219

Backfire

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# March 2023

1920s Fiat Saloon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 <b>EXTREME WEATHER</b> (including Total Fire Bans) A club event may be cancelled on extreme weather days. If an extreme weather day is predicted members should either: check the club website; check their emails; or contact the event organiser.	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Feb	<b>1 March</b>	<b>2</b> Coffee Run. Asea Golf Club 10am 	<b>3</b> Backfire Folding Morning	<b>4</b> Ballarat Vintage Swap
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Tinker Day in Moriac. 10am Clubrooms	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Yarra Glen Swap. Swanpool Swap	<b>13</b> Seymour Show & Shine	<b>14</b> General Meeting, 7.30pm	<b>15</b> Dine Out Great Western	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Koroit Swap.
<b>19</b> Maldon Swap. Leongatha Swap	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Committee Meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Aussie B40 Rally 24-26 Hamilton	<b>25</b> Rob Roy Revival 25-26. Goulburn Valley Vintage Rally 25-26
<b>26</b> Club Run BBQ in the You Yangs	<b>27</b> Backfire Deadline	<b>28</b> Tech Night "Motorcycles"	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Backfire Folding Morning	1 April Horsham Swap