

# VINTAGE & VCLASSIC

CAR CLUB BALLARAT INC.



P.O. BOX 1010, BAKERY HILL, VICTORIA, 3354

[www.vccc.org.au](http://www.vccc.org.au)

A0026598U

November 2023



Member Club



Working for Motoring Enthusiasts



Alan Rogers with his very special 1929 Ariel Motorcycle



Meetings held on the 3rd Friday of each month at Clubrooms, Humffray St. Sth. (Cnr Gladstone St.), Ballarat

## Note - Meeting Start Time will be at 8.00 PM during Daylight Saving Time

**NOTE:** The next **General Meeting** will be held **Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023** at the VCCC clubrooms.

### Life Members

Alan Firms, Kevin Holloway, Ted Callow (Dec), Norm Grose (Dec), Ron Gay, Ron Goad, Grant Harvey (Dec), Paul Seager (Dec), Bill Whitford (Dec), Daryl Crawley, Tony Taranto and Gordon Roberts

### Newsletter

Articles for the **December 2023** newsletter are required no later than **5 pm Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023**  
All contributions should be in MS Word with photos in JPG format and emailed to [npbackhouse.a30@gmail.com](mailto:npbackhouse.a30@gmail.com)  
*All contributions acknowledged.*

### Code Red Fire Rating Days

Any Club event which falls on a day designated as **Code Red** is automatically cancelled, and Members and Guests are advised to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan

### Club Office Bearers 2023 – 2024

President	Andy Burns (Lee)	0428 935 988	burns_group@bigpond.com
Vice president	Brett Holloway (Kirstin)	0418 503 541	brett.holloway@findex.com.au
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Treasurer	Dale Everett	0438 316 711	dalee@ppt.com.au

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VCCC Website – Members area password: vccc2021

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**The Club Library** will be open 10am until 12noon – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month –  
next is **8<sup>th</sup> November** and then **13<sup>th</sup> December** and **10<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

This month there is a very interesting and memory-provoking article written by member Steve Rattle - "Motoring a Century Ago". Hope you enjoy it. Thank you, Steve.

The Club has been very busy in the last month – see all the events reports for a good read – plus a report from Brett Holloway on the recent Federation meeting.

*Nerene Backhouse, Editor*

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Bereavement

We have sent our condolences to **Barbara McMaster's** family following her passing last month. Although she was no longer a member, we felt it quite appropriate to acknowledge our sentiments after she, and her late husband, Don's, enthusiastic involvement in the Club over many years.

### Welfare

We have four members on the sick list this month - two of our stalwarts who work extensively behind the scenes found themselves on the operating table in the last month. **Margaret Gay** has had a hip replacement and **Tony Newman** has had a valve replacement in his heart – this will be followed up later with another operation. **Lyn McDonald** had the misfortune of having a fall with the result of a broken ankle – not content with that, she then tripped at home and broke her wrist. So, she is sitting back watching Tony doing all the work. **Keith Mackinlay** had some back surgery last month, and is recovering now at home. Our caring thoughts and best wishes have been extended to all of them for a full recovery. And we continue to think of those with ongoing health issues, and wish them brighter days.

### Around The Table at Committee - 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023

There have been a number of emails forwarded to the Club that I think need to be forwarded on to Club members.

1 **Stolen** from Box Hill Melbourne - **Vintage 1936 BSA 500cc, Model W33-7 motor bike**, on or around the Grand Final Weekend. The owner, who is a member of the Vintage Motorcycle Club of Victoria, is very anxious for the return of this special bike. If you see or hear anything or have any information, we have the contact details. Also, see the notice board.

2 Greg Stevens is trying to **research** the history of his late Father-in-law's **FC Holden sedan**. The car was sold in the late 1980's by Dick Curnow on behalf of the family of Percy Polwarth's estate to someone living in Creswick. The car is an FC Special - businessman's specifications in a two-tone blue/grey scheme. If you are able to help, Greg would be very appreciative. Contact me for the details.

3 Jules Stephens has a **1949/52 Bedford Van** which belonged to her late partner. She is wanting guidance on the price of the vehicle if anyone is interested. She has said it needs a lot of work but the motor, dash, 5 wheels, windows and windscreen all look intact. Inside is a shell. She would appreciate some guidance and advice. Jules has sent a photo of the vehicle. She lives in Brown Hill; contact me for details.

4 The AOMC are again hosting the **Picnic at Hanging Rock** on **11<sup>th</sup> February 2024**. The event is open for display vehicles of all makes, models, marques and styles and be able to be driven to the event. Check out their website.

5 The AOMC is holding the **Variety Rally Around Victoria** on **1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024** for motoring and motorcycle enthusiasts. Check out their website

6 If you have lost or misplaced your **name badge**, see Graham Lambourn for a replacement. At the moment, there is **no charge** for a replacement. This offer will not last for long. Ring me for any of the details above.

*Nancy Jackson*  
Secretary

## NOTICE BOARD

Upcoming Events from other regions you may be interested to go to if you are in the area:

19 <sup>th</sup> November	American Motoring Show	South Gardens, Lake Wendouree
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Willaura Swap Meet	Recreation Reserve
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Maldon Swap Meet	Maldon Racecourse
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Bike Only Swap Meet	Llanelly Hall (Bendigo)
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Colac Swap Meet	Colac Racecourse

## Cover Story – Dad's 1929 Ariel Motorcycle

### Motorcycle Details:

Our Ariel is a 1929 Model A Standard. It has a 557cc (86.4mm Bore, 95mm Stroke) single cylinder side valve engine of Ariel's own manufacture, Engine number H3029, with an Amal carburettor and Lucas magneto ignition, The rigid rear frame, Frame number H3169, had a tension spring girder front fork and 19" wheels. The gearbox is a Sturmey Archer 3 speed hand change unit. It is one of a series of motorcycles designed by Valentine Page, produced by Ariel from 1926 to 1930, referred to as "Black Ariels" and incorporated a modern design and many innovative features.

It was the first Ariel model to use a recirculating oil lubrication system, rather than the previous total loss oil system. However, despite all its modern features, the Lucas electrical lighting and horn system was an 'extra cost' option available when the motorcycle was purchased. The 1929 Ariel Model A cost £44 when new, and the lighting option was £5 more, for the 6-volt battery, generator, headlight, tail light and horn etc. This motorcycle was despatched from Ariel Works Selly Oak, England, to Australia in February 1929, and is one of 1,870 Ariel Model A motorcycles produced in 1929.

### Motorcycle History:

This bike has been in my family for over 87 years of its 94 years life. It was first ridden by my father, Mr Frank Rogers of Aberfeldie, Wendouree Parade, Ballarat. (Vic Rego Number 33-824)

Frank purchased the bike second-hand from Cripps & Deveson Motorcycles, (formerly Milledge Bros) 109 Sturt Street, Ballarat in about 1936, to enable him to travel to RMIT in Melbourne for study to gain his Health Inspectors Certificate for his work at the Ballarat City Council.

Frank began his work at the Town Hall Ballarat in 1927 at the age of 15 as the junior office boy, and apart from Air Force service in Papua New Guinea, he worked at the Town Hall for 50 years, attaining the most senior position of Town Clerk for 11 years until his retirement in 1977.

According to my father, the journey between Ballarat and Melbourne at that time took about 2½ hours each way, and could be quite eventful, with occasional breakdowns, and the possibility of dairy cows crossing the Melbourne Road near Myrning, in the Pentland Hills. Frank later recalled that on one occasion, "in the dusk light, I spotted cattle crossing the road, applied gentle braking which resulted in the bike slipping out on the muck, and I did a few whirligigs on the road, and finished up with the bike without a clutch. Anyway, we got over that by putting it in gear and starting it from a push start and went off down to Melbourne." The accompanying black and white photo is of Frank on his Ariel in 1936, with two nieces on board.



Later the Ariel was sold (or given) to my mother's cousin, Mr John Woodburn of Wandobah, Dunkeld. John used the bike for road use until about 1953 (Vic Rego Number 42771), after which it was used as an agricultural paddock bike until the 1970's.

John, who was a serious collector of bikes, cars, and many other things, encouraged me in my teen years to further my interest in old motorcycles, and he returned the Ariel to me in 1977, saying that "you should have that bike, as it was your father's bike." .... thank you, John!

The Ariel has been in my possession for about 46 years. The bike was not running when it came to me, many parts missing, and was 'well loved!' Over the years, I have done many necessary repairs to make and keep it running. I have also been to swap meets and specialist vintage bike parts shops, and sourced, found, made and fitted many of the missing parts and replaced various other worn and broken parts.

The bike is running well, is quite rideable, and is in generally original unrestored condition. I aim to restore the bike to a more reliable and usable condition, (but I need a good nudge!) with much better presentation, and then to get it on historic registration, and we are looking forward to the day when we can take it on the various club activities and rides locally.

*Alan and Joy Rogers*

### Did You Know . . .

- . . . . Play-Dough was first manufactured as a wallpaper cleaner?
- . . . . August has the highest % of births of any month?
- . . . . the Bible is the number one shoplifted book in America?
- . . . . for every litre of seawater you get about 32 grams of salt?
- . . . . the splayd - combination of knife, fork and spoon - was invented in 1943?

## COMING EVENTS – November - December 2023

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

### ~ Twilight Classic Motorcycle Runs ~

These are usually held mid-month on a Wednesday evening (weather dependent). Club Eligible bikes only. Contact **Chris Ridsdale on 0448 425 001** if you would like to be included on his list to be notified when a run is happening.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Club Library Open – Contact Daryl Meek 0407 881 288**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch – Contact Ray Drury 0417 840 623**

Now the weather is improving, why not come along and meet new members or catch up with those you know.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Ladies Crafternoon – Contact Jenny Ure 0409 954 077**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Kelaston Visit/Display – enter the car park via Park Street**

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we have received a request from Calvary/Kelaston to supply some vehicles for the residents to see between **1.15pm and 2.30pm**. The cars will be parked in the Kelaston Car Park and residents will wander out or be brought out to see the vehicles and chat to the owners.

Contact Brendan Stevens - 0409 018 867 if you are available.

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Rustless Wanderers Lunch – Swiss Mountain Hotel, Blampied**

Make your own way there; bookings required by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November - contact Rick Thege 0428 518 770

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Club General Meeting – 8.00pm**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Monthly Club Run (Trophy Points) – Display at the Beaufort Agricultural Show**

We will depart at **9am from the Doctors/Centrelink Car Park** Learmonth Road, and taking a scenic route to the Goldfields Reserve, Park Road in Beaufort to be parked by 10am and leaving after 3pm. The driver and passenger are admitted free. There will be two \$50 prizes drawn on the day. Each vehicle gets one free raffle ticket. This will be an opportunity for us to support a local country show.

It is a great one-day event with shearing competitions, wood chop events, yard dog trials, horse, cattle and poultry judging, a huge pavilion filled with cookery, craft, flowers, floral art and photography. There is an art show, food court, various trade stalls and some entertainers for children, and an animal nursery. There are junior show girl and show boy competitions, pet show, dog jump and family fun event. Obviously, plenty to see and do.

For further details contact James Kirkpatrick ph 0427 498 235 or Club Captain Brendan Stevens 0409 018 867

## **VINTAGE & CLASSIC CAR CLUB BALLARAT INC.** presents the **ANNUAL GEOFF HERKES MEMORIAL PRE '30's TOUR**

~ **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023** ~

Catering for Vintage and Veteran Cars, Trucks and Motorcycles

A casual day's drive/ride in scenic countryside with other enthusiasts

Trophy Points will be allocated as this event falls on the Club Run Day



### **ENTRY \$5.00 PER PERSON**

Tour starts at the Haddon Lions Club Rooms and finishes at the Haddon Recreation Centre (15km SW of Ballarat)

Arrive from **8.30am** at the Haddon Lions Park for a **9.30am** departure.

Morning and Afternoon Tea provided – BYO Lunch or Takeaway shops available.

Fuel available in the town that we stop for lunch. Period Dress Optional

Further details – phone **Mark Border 0438 399 609** or **Peter Grose 0438 346 509**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Club Committee Meeting – 7.30pm**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch** – Contact Ray Drury 0417 840 623

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Andy’s Inaugural “Any Vehicle You Like Morning”**

President Andy is inviting all members to gather at Lake Wendouree just past the Tram Museum, in the Floral Clock area at 9.30am. Bring whatever takes your fancy – trucks, tractors, cars, bikes, whatever (must have a club permit, of course), and we will see how the morning pans out.

Any questions, contact Andy 0428 935 988

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Naked Radiator Run – meet at the Clubrooms for 10.30am departure**

Last run for the year - contact Frank & Jan Tamis – 0475 192 372 – for details

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Monthly Club Run (Trophy Points) – Xmas Barbeque at the Clubrooms**

~ **PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE WEEK BEFORE THE CLUB MEETING** ~

The BBQ will be sizzling and salads provided. Andy is organising the inaugural Rocker Cover Racing Event so get your engineering skills together and build yourself a racer. The cooks and caterers will need numbers by Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec, so please let the wonderful Jenny Ure - 0409 954 077 - know who is attending by that date

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Club Library Open – Contact Daryl Meek 0407 881 288**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch** – Contact Ray Drury 0417 840 623

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Rustless Wanderers Xmas Lunch -**

Make your own way there; bookings essential by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December - contact Rick Thege 0428 518 770

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Club General Meeting – 8.00pm**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Invitation to display some of our vehicles at the entrance to Mars Stadium for the opening of the Carols by Candlelight Concert. Contact Brendan for information on 0409 018 867

Looking Ahead – **SAVE THE DATE – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February – 2024 Begonia Rally**

Plans are well in place - Entry Forms with all the details are included with this newsletter.

## PAST EVENTS

**Naked Radiator Run – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023**



This run had a good turn out, considering not only was it the first morning of Daylight Saving but also the day after the AFL Grand Final. 24 cars carrying 43 people collected at the club rooms on a cool and windy but sunny morning.

It was our second car event for the day but as Jan promised 2 pieces of slice to Barry a few weeks before, there we were with my trusty finger to the phone keyboard taking notes on and off for the day.

A line of beautiful old naked radiators headed off only a few minutes late, followed by a few classic and one very new smart blue Volkswagen. We followed behind Tom Quinlan in his nice and tidy little 1929 De Soto, not a bad view ahead for the duration of the drive.

Our intrepid leader Frank Tamis pulled over before the Gillies Street overpass for all to catch up, absolutely necessary considering the short lights at Howitt and Gillies Streets that let through only about 4 or 5 cars at a time. We also came across two of those not-so-great Ballarat drivers that don't understand the car in front has right of way in a merge zone!

Back all together, the line of cars headed out Gillies Street to Creswick through Springmount to the Newlyn roundabout where we swung back towards Ballarat through Dean. The drive was full of lovely rural views of spring crops on a quiet Sunday morning but at the same time I made sure I kept a close eye on the instructions, after the last run where we were led off towards Ballan and had to turn around to get back en route.

At Dean we turned left to Mollonghip, where a very late spud harvest was underway in the paddock on our right. Harvesting waits for no man, even months past the season, there are not weekends for farmers. We now traversed narrow country roads, with slopes of beautiful red earth where potatoes have been harvested and yellow heads of the canola crop flowers through to Mollonghip.

We hadn't left the poor drivers behind though. While climbing a hill, an Isuzu twin cab in a hurry showcased his poor driving skills by bullying his way past us all before we got to Springbank. From Springbank we drove alongside the busy freeway, over the overpass and into Bungaree.

For a windy day, most of the renewable energy windmills here were turning very, very slowly. And I'm sure we all saw the black and tan kelpie that was woken from its slumber in the morning sun by our line of cars. By the time we passed him (or her), the dog was crouched low by the side of the road, perhaps waiting for one of us to stop so he could pounce!

On through Dunnstown, Yendon and Buninyong, we arrived at our lunch destination, the Mt Helen residence of Peter and Margaret Bruty, well-known Volkswagen collectors. Peter has always loved Volkswagens and for the last 20 years has been collecting, with the approval of non-car addict wife Margaret.



Their collection ranges from cars to trucks to a boat with a VW engine to modified VW themed collectibles, like a working fridge, a cabinet (made from another non-working fridge) and even a coffee machine. It is not unknown for a collector to have one or two other collection sidelines. The fridge cabinet holds a 5 container milk shake machine . . . . evidence that Peter also collects milk shake machines, a few of which were lined up on the floor near the Beetles on the hoist!

A couple of dozen or so Volkswagen pedal cars hang from the shed walls. Up high above an office space is also a 1957 VW Kombi cabinet from Craig Bros, the original Volkswagen dealership in Ballarat. This display is completed with a mannequin supplied from Birregurra after Peter saw one the creator displayed at their local show.

A recent addition to the collection is a VW tool kit that fits into the spare wheel of a Beetle. Made by Hazet, it is rare to find one with all the tools, and amazingly, considering how rare to find one with all the tools, and amazingly, considering how rare the originals are, Peter found his just out the road from Ballarat, at Scarsdale.

Miniature engines are on display, signs layer the walls, with an original VW sign obtained from John Emery Motors after the business closed in 2001. A new 'trophy' has been recently installed just six weeks ago, an aeroplane with a VW engine, of course!



The plane was bought from the Yorke Peninsula and weighs only 240kg. Originally from Western Australia, it was trailed to the Peninsula by the previous owner who is now 82 years old. On arrival in Ballarat, the wings had to be removed to get it into the shed, then when the body was in place, the wings were re-attached. Alongside the plane is a VW motored gyrocopter . . . . sadly, Peter's uncle crashed his gyro many years ago at Mt Emu.

A 1957 single cab German Tempo Matador truck on display is a lovely example of the very few built between 1949 and 1951. Peter found his one in the Barossa Valley. And of course, there can be no Volkswagen Museum without Beetles. Peter had 4 beautifully restored cars from the 1960s on display for us. Margaret also drives a very nice example of an original Volkswagen Karmann Ghia.



Reg Rhook checking out the late 1960's Auscar

Outside are a number of items, including some Porsche tractors and a street sweeper with VW engine, of course, CFA trucks and a 1960 BMW motorbike with a VW 4-cylinder motor. A highly prized item on display is an Auscar Hill Climb car, raced at Ararat in 1971 by builder and well-known driver, Paul England; Peter has Paul's helmet and log book as well.

Rounding off a great day out, Frank delivered Barry two pieces of Jan's fruit cake as promised. It was so good he got another piece before we packed up to leave. A huge thank you to Peter and Margaret for opening up their collection to us all, and to Frank and Jan for yet another lovely Sunday drive.

Cyndy Allison

#### Attendees Naked Radiator Run – 1<sup>st</sup> October

1923 Vauxhall	Reg Rhook	1956 Morris Minor	John Fisher
1929 Plymouth	Frank & Jan Tamis	1959 Jaguar	Nancy & Tristan Jackson
1929 Chrysler	Gordon & Pam Roberts	1964 Holden EH Prem	Jenny Ure, Karen Lawrence & Michael Dulfer
1929 Triumph Super 7	Noel Tregrove	1974 Triumph 2500	
1929 Marquette	Warren & Barb Harris	Mk II sedan	John Taylor
1929 Ford Model A	Garry Hayward	1984 Jaguar XJ6G	Tony & Lyn McDonald
1929 Ford Model A		1986 M Benz 300SE	Daryl & Barb Mitchell
Closed Cab Ute	Ron & Linda Harris	1987 Nissan Skyline	
1929 Ford Model A	David Clarke	Silhouette	Barry & Cyndy Allison
1929 DeSoto	Tom Quinlan	1997 Mercedes CLK	John Peart
1938 Packard	Kevin & Helen Holloway	1990 M Benz 300SE	Wayne Lineker & Jackie
1938 Pontiac	Mark & Judy Richmond	1990 Toyota Cressida	Kevin & Lorelli Huggins
1938 Pontiac Coupe	Bob, Tracey, Jonty Bennetts		
1951 Morris Minor	Bruce Kerr		
Modern – John & Gayle Pickering			

## Mid-week Twilight Motorcycle Run 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023

The first of the daylight-saving mid-week Motorcycle Rides was held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October out to the Snake Valley Hotel. The weather was sunny so 35 riders on a great array of motorcycles attended, including a number of VCCC members.

A good selection of Classic, Vintage and Veteran bikes were there, with marques such as AJS, Ariel, BSA, BMW, Ducati, Honda, Kawasaki, Laverda, Matchless, Moto Morini, Norton, Panther, Scott, Suzuki, Triumph, Yamaha, being represented.

As the weather dictates when these rides will be held, dates can't really be set, so if you have a club registerable (25 years and older) motorcycle and would like to be informed of these rides, please ring me on 0448 425 001.

*Chris Ridsdale*



## Monthly Club Run – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Ballan CFA Station and Demonstration Site

As Club Captain, when somebody approaches me with a suggestion for a run and volunteers to organise it, I jump for joy. This was the case back in February when Club member Paul Dehnert came up with a suggestion to visit the CFA Shed at Ballan, demonstrate and chat about the rescue gear they use and provide lunch and morning tea - I definitely did an internal backflip.

So, the October Trophy Run date was locked in. The weather gods did all they could to douse our enthusiasm but still 35 rugged-up members and friends made their way to Ballan via Dunnstown, Yendon Road, Mt Egerton and Geelong Road. We were welcomed by the CFA crew with hot Tea, Coffee and Milo and bikkies, and gathered in the shed's main function room in the refurbished original 1906 Fire Station.



After a welcome by Paul, the group car-pooled and followed the Rescue trucks and Paul to his farm about 10 minutes out of town. Paul had worked feverishly in the previous days to clear some space in the hayshed with the anticipated rain drizzling down. The crowd gathered around a damaged Ford Territory that had only slid off a tilt tray at the site at 10am. We all circled in the dry space and watched the crew unload the tools used in the dismantling of a vehicle at a crash site.



Crew Captain Ben Hadfield began with a basic explanation of the very powerful hydraulic cutting and expanding devices that were available, and the approach by crew to an accident scene. Their job begins while on the way as they research the engineering that is built into the vehicle they may have to pull apart.

They have ipads/tablets loaded with descriptions and data on all makes of vehicles. Their approach will vary enormously with massive differences in makes and models in Airbag numbers and positions to live power cables and, of course, all the engineering with EV's and Hydrogen powered vehicles.



At any scene, it is all about safety for the injured people and the rescue crew, and precautions and safety gear are paramount for the team to pull the glass and metal cage apart. The "Jaws of Life" come in several sizes and make short work of pillars and door hinges. The expanders widen closed and crushed areas to allow access. One of the really interesting tools was the tiny trigger punch that shatters windows and slices through seat belts with ease, and looked no bigger than a pocket knife.

Captain Ben explained that this morning's exercise was also a training day for the crew and this poor old Territory will be sliced and diced a lot more on other days to get his team's skills to the appropriate level. He also allowed several of the Club group to hold on to the "Jaws" while they munched through the heavy metal.





Jonty Bennetts checks out one of the tools

The CFA Ballan Crew cover a 25km radius, including 50-60km section of the Western Freeway, and unfortunately deal with many accidents each year. The CFA is also a first responder to all sorts of other life endangering incidents as well, not simply fire and vehicle accidents.

Before we knew it, the clock ticked over to 12:30, so we started to pack up and get back to town to have some lunch. The Auxiliary ladies dished us up beautiful homemade pumpkin soup along with mini quiches, party pies, delicious fresh sandwiches, sponge cakes, scones jam and cream, other cakes and fruit platters plus a side of Gluten Free servings for those with special dietary needs.

After the belts were loosened a bit, the crowd mingled in the newish (2003) extended shed with the fire crew, and looked over and crawled into the range of trucks that were housed there. The changes in design that have

happened over the last 30-40 years was evident as an old tanker from the 90's was displayed next to the very latest that only arrived a month or two ago. It was interesting to see the children taking a lot of interest in what was going on – and of course having a sit in “the big red fire trucks”.



Bruce Kerr checking out the work



Brendan Stevens thanking Brigade members and ladies



Mike & Lyn Simpson's grandchildren Landon, Quinann and Llywelyn really enjoyed their day

It was also a bit of a reunion for several, especially Nerene who lived in Ballan for 20 years and had connections with the Fire Brigade in those years. She remembers the opening of the new shed and the refurb of the old station well. She shared quite a few memories with people not seen for several years.

By about 3pm, the VCCC mob had nearly all departed with a much better understanding of what's involved in road accident rescue and fire management. The teamwork, professionalism, skills and pride that all the volunteer members from the Ballan CFA display were truly outstanding. We all hope and pray that we are never on the receiving end of their skills, and a huge thank you to Captain Ben and to Paul for allowing us to visit and learn. And to the Auxiliary ladies - big thanks also for the excellent range of foods provided that satisfied all of our tastes. Keep safe over summer.

*Brendan Stevens*

**Attendees – Club Run to Ballan CFA**

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Rick Thege & Heather Gingell             | 1929 Delage                     |
| Bob, Tracey & Jonty Bennetts             | 1938 Pontiac Sloper             |
| Graeme Bell                              | 1940 Dodge Sedan                |
| Bruce Kerr                               | 1951 Morris Minor Tourer        |
| Nerene Backhouse                         | 1956 Austin A30                 |
| Jim Kellett                              | 1963 Studebaker Hawk            |
| Wayne Lineker                            | 1963 Holden EH                  |
| Colin & Laurel Hill                      | 1964 Zodiac                     |
| Mike & Lyn Simpson, Richard & Ann Mallon | 1968 Ford Executive             |
| Ron & Suzanne Damen                      | 1970 Valiant VF Coupe           |
| Tom Quinlan                              | 1972 Mercedes Benz              |
| Malcom & Judy Bandy                      | 1973 Pontiac Grand Safari Wagon |
| John Taylor                              | 1974 Triumph 2500 Sedan         |
| Richard & Anne-Marie English             | 1977 BMW 633CSI                 |
| Moyle Bunworth                           | 1988 Toyota Celica Liftback     |

Modern - Brendan Stevens, Bernie Brisbane, Ray Allen, Roger & Faye Burnett, Nancy Jackson,  
 Guests - Helen, Landon, Quinann and Llywelyn Roberts



Bernie Brisbane using one of the tools

## Residents' Day Out – John Curtin – Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> October

After a break of three years caused by COVID 19 we were able to conduct our first aged care run for the residents of John Curtin aged care. Fortunately, the weather was kind to us with the sun breaking through. Once loaded we travelled through the countryside which looked wonderful, to Lake Learmonth where our guests were delighted to see the lake full, then on to Clunes via Coghills Creek to Smeaton then to Kingston and back to Creswick. All our 19 guests were very happy - they thoroughly enjoyed their outing. We were served afternoon tea and thanked by the staff, but we were rewarded by the enjoyment our guests displayed by their thanks and smiles.

Thank you to those who supported the Run:

Brendan Stevens	1955 MG Magnette
Nerene Backhouse	1956 Austin A30
Ray Allen	1949 MG TC
Frank Whitfield	1981 Mercedes Benz 300D
Kevin Holloway	1955 Holden FJ
John Fisher	1956 Morris Minor
Graeme Quemard	1954 Austin A40
Graeme Johns	1968 Morris Mini Cooper
David Mc Hattie	1973 Mercedes Benz 350SE
John Peart	Rover 75

Frank Whitfield



## Bingo – 28<sup>th</sup> October – Halloween Theme



Looks like – Brendan Collier – maybe?

WOW! What a night this was! The Festival of All Hallows was well and truly celebrated. Most of the 40 odd people dressed up in their finest Halloween outfits and enjoyed a great night of fun - plus winning plenty of prizes. The clubrooms looked fantastic, thanks to Wendy and Warrick Pitcher and family – it was easy to see the work involved, so a BIG thank you to them for transforming the rooms for the night. *Nerene Backhouse*



Looks like – our Callers – yep, pretty sure!!! Aka Warrick & Wendy Pitcher

## Federation Meeting Report

The Quarterly Delegates' meeting was held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October and was attended by both VCCC Delegates. This was hosted by the Echuca & District Historic Vehicle Club at their Clubrooms in Rotary Park on the outskirts of Echuca, which they built in the 1980s. We were welcomed by the President who shared some history and advised they currently have around 200 members.

There were new Delegates present from the Swan Hill Vintage & Classic Vehicle Club and the Bendigo Historic Motorcycle Club.

The meeting included all standard Agenda items - I have identified those of interest as follows:

- **Correspondence:**

In – Peter Mac Cancer Centre - letter of appreciation and certificate for donations totalling around \$6,000 as proceeds from Federation Picnic days this year.  
Out – RACV – sponsorship request – Golden Oldies Tour – August 2024 (see below).

- **Trophy Donations:**

Hobsons Bay - for their annual event, although no Delegate was present to discuss or promote.  
VCCC Ballarat – for Begonia Rally 2024 - arranged and discussed with Nerene beforehand, we were able to promote this - Federation webmaster is able to upload Entry Form when available.

- **Capital Grants:**

Dandenong Valley – paid - to support the purchase of club banners and feather flags.  
Antique Motorcycle Club – approved - for purchase of Defibrillator.  
Mildura Vintage Vehicle Club – application pending – for replacement computer

## **Picnic Days:**

With Clubs planning ahead, the dates have been released for Federation Picnic Days in 2024 so they can go in to calendars now. Also looking to continue with the fundraising for Peter Mac and will arrange more collection tins.

- **Picnic at Mortlake** - Save the Date - **Sunday 24th March 2024**, celebrating 20 years, have been successful with a Community Grant, so this will be a bigger event next year!
  - **Wunghnu Vehicle, Machinery and Collectables Picnic Day** – Weekend of 30th/31st March 2024 (Easter weekend), incorporating 100 years of Farmall tractors.
  - **Scoresby Picnic** – Sunday 5th May 2024, at National Steam Centre.
  - **Murrabit Picnic** – a new event – Sunday 19th May 2024, in conjunction with National Motoring Heritage Day, and the Delegates meeting in Kerang the day before.
  - **Picnic at Marong** – Sunday 25th August 2024, including Tractor Trek/Engine Display.
  - **Baw Baw Picnic** – Sunday 20th October 2024
- **Federation Tours:**
    - **Open Tour (2023)** – For all vehicles 25+ years old:  
This is now all done, travelled through Kerang, Swan Hill, Echuca and Shepparton with good reports of visits to private collections of memorabilia, tractor and bowser collections, museums, and car restoration businesses. Support provided by Federation Clubs in the areas visited, and a presentation by Norm Darwin on the Arthur Bishop Story. Federation trophy awarded to 1927 Amilcar.
    - **Golden Oldies Tour (2024)** – For Vintage Vehicles only (1919 – 1930):  
Save the Date – Sunday 25th August 2024 – Sunday 1st September 2024, leaving from Picnic at Marong, travelling around the Daylesford, Geelong and Ballarat area.
  - **Bendigo Swap – 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**  
Not long to go now – fingers crossed as we get closer to the weekend. The feature this year is Barn Finds or Survivor Cars in the Exhibition Centre.  
Thank you to all who have offered to volunteer – numbers are good, and the Club will benefit.
  - **AHMF (Australian Historic Motoring Federation)** – Annual Meeting and AGM was held September 9th-10th – in Brisbane and was attended by 3 Federation Delegates.  
Reports received from State and Territory Councils, with changes to respective Club Permit schemes (including modified vehicles), activities on National Heritage Motoring Day, State Rallies and Swap Meets etc. together with fundraising for cancer research and Robert Shannon Trust.  
Other discussions around restrictions on significant items leaving Australia, Carbon offset schemes and future fuels.  
Not all States are on board - the aim is to engage/re-engage with WA, NT and Tasmania.  
The next meeting will be in September 2024, hosted in Adelaide.  
Reminder that the newsletters can be found on the Federation website, and if you have any articles to share that you think would benefit the movement, please send them in.
  - **Robert Shannon Foundation (RSF)**  
At the AHMF AGM, 3 applications were presented, 2 were held over, 1 was successful, via the Rover Car Club (NSW) – for a 1947 Triumph Roadster.  
There has been discussion about the possibility of a re-enactment of the year 2000 Shannons Rally, potentially in 2025.  
In support of RSF, at each Federation meeting there will now be a raffle held, and the proceeds will be matched by Federation, with the expectation that over a 12-month period we can raise \$1,000 toward this worth cause.
  - **Insurance Renewals**  
Clubs that access the group cover will have policy renewal documents arriving soon.
- The Federation prize for vehicle on display was awarded to a Moto Guzzi 750 (2 wheels this time).
- At the end of the meeting, Norm Raverty spoke, as a founding member of the Echuca Club, recalling early meetings in his lounge room at home. Norm then invited Delegates to visit his Motor Museum after the meeting, certainly worth a look if you are in the area.
- The next Delegates' meeting is scheduled for February in Maryborough.

*Brett & Kevin Holloway*  
*Federation Delegates*

Apologies from Ron Gay – he is busy giving Margaret some well-deserved TLC, so there is not a book review this month. BUT! Here’s hoping the first instalment of the following contribution from Steve Rattle will suffice:

**Melbourne, Victoria – Motoring a Century Ago in 1923**

A century ago – 1923 - was four, five or even six generations past. The gramophone and the player piano ‘pianola’ were all the rage, the Charleston soon to become the dance craze and The Great War was only five years past. This ‘war to end all wars’ still had serious ramifications for housing, employment and mental health. Melbourne police were to strike for improved pay and conditions in November resulting in smashed store windows, looting, an overturned tram and three deaths.



Canberra was still being built and Federal Parliament sat at Spring Street in Melbourne. Cable trams ran around the streets of Melbourne, steam trains ran to the suburbs but the electrification of train and tram lines were slowly being completed. The Model T Ford still dominated car sales but was starting to be challenged in popularity by marques such as Buick, Chevrolet, Dodge and Studebaker from the USA and Austin, Clyno, Hillman and the bullnose Morris from the U.K.

Comparing motor cars from a century ago to today is a fascinating, frustrating and scary prospect - from a health and safety perspective. Changes, improvements and modifications in all things automotive are clearly evident – but the following history should be considered when making comparisons.

**1. Cost**

When we now speak in terms of pounds, shillings and pence – even guineas (21 shillings or 1 pound 1 shilling), this terminology is something pre-14 February 1966 that perhaps only granddad or grandma can remember. It means absolutely



nothing to a modern generation and is very hard to comprehend – a system based on the number 12 or a dozen. The Reserve Bank of Australia have a website that helps us turn old values into modern dollar terms for comparison. It factors in inflation and wage growth over time.

[www.rba.gov.au/calculator/annualPreDecimal.html](http://www.rba.gov.au/calculator/annualPreDecimal.html)

Let’s look at a few values for comparison:

1923 in LSD	2023 in \$
6d - six pence (5 cents)	2.13
1/- one shilling (10 cents)	4.27
10/- 10 shillings (\$1)	42.67
£1 - 1 pound (\$2)	85.35
£5 - 5 pounds (\$10)	426.73
£10 -10 pounds (\$20)	853.45
£100 – 100 pounds (\$200)	8,534.52
£500 – 500 pounds (\$1000)	42,672.62
£1000 – 1000 pounds (\$2000)	85,345.24
<b>Motor Cars</b>	
T Ford Roadster - £220	18,775.95
T Ford Deluxe Tourer - £280	23,896.67
Morris Bullnose Cowley Roadster – £325	27,737.20
Morris Bullnose Oxford Roadster - £425	36,271.73

The cheapest motor car available in 1923 was the Model T Ford. Compare these prices with the cheapest cars of today.

**2. Safety**

We are fortunate that ‘grandfather rules’ apply to the licensing and registration of historic vehicles in Victoria. The vehicle must live up to the expectations of its manufactured year, within reason.

Stop lights became compulsory around 1935 and seat belts in 1970. As Victoria has not, to date, pushed for annual vehicle roadworthy inspections (unless the vehicle is being sold) many older vehicles simply have their registration paid each year and motor on.

The motor car of 1923 was virtually devoid of any real safety features and sadly accidents and fatalities were all too common. Plate glass windscreens and windows, gravity fed fuel tanks under seats and under windscreens near smoking motorists, limited lighting, lack of child restraints and seat belts – the list goes on. But we loved our cars and survived - perhaps it was a higher level of common sense that kept our ancestor motorists alive.



1923 Bullnose Morris

### 3. Population

Without getting hung up on exact numbers, the Australian and Melbourne metropolitan area population has certainly increased over the last century.

	1923	2023
Melbourne metropolitan	850,000	5.15 million
Australia	5.69 million	26 million

*To be continued next month*

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

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

If you are unable to attend a meeting then:

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

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

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

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

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

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

### CLASSIFIEDS – FOR SALE AND WANTED

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

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

**Deadline for articles – Tues 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023** Editor, Nerene Backhouse – [nbackhouse.a30@gmail.com](mailto:nbackhouse.a30@gmail.com)

#### FOR SALE

1928 Ford Model A Coupe Engine No A507098 Body No A2512519  
 Older Restoration Good Driver On Club Rego  
 Has been a great rally car for us over the last 9 years - making room for new addition \$32,000 ONO

Contact Ken – 0417 524 241



#### FOR SALE

Cast brass radiator cap. 12 finger grips. 2” diameter, 8TPI thread.	\$ 20
Watford magneto FO4. Fearsome spark. Vernier drive.	\$500
Watford magneto, FO4. Needs a full recondition.	\$100
Lucas magneto GA4 complete, looks very good but condition unknown	\$300
Bosch magneto FF4 AR 2142, no distributor cap, also looks good	\$300
Bosch “elbow” horn U1812 no. 163610	\$300

Contact - Reg Rhook 0437 707 724

**FOR SALE**

8 antique garage bifold doors standing 10ft high and 2'6" wide  
Would make excellent display wall.  
Asking \$800 neg.

**Contact Trevor 0417503206**



**FOR SALE**

Dunbier single axle galvanised tilt trailer  
2.8 x 1.7 metres new tyres  
registered winch Suit small car to 750 kg  
As new - \$3,500 ono (new price \$4000)

**Contact Graeme 0438 355 922**



**FOR SALE**

1937 Buick Special Sedan Series 40  
Straight 8 100 hp motor Engine No: 3788660 on Club Rego  
95% restored \$27,000

For further details - **Greg & Kathryn Hay 0409 069 665**



**FOR SALE**

Veteran 1914 Douglas 3 1/2 HP motorcycle partly restored. This machine is in excellent condition having been well stored and kept for many years. Original engine fully reconditioned and ready to start, many other parts already reconditioned and finished. Known history and only 2 owners from new, **\$10,500**

For further details - **Glen - 0458 343 792**



**FOR SALE**

1963 Rover P4 100 – this original Rover P4 is the personal car of the former President of The Rover P4 Drivers Guild of Australia.

Registration number: 65088-H Engine number: 76600190A  
Chassis number: 76600190A Price: \$30,000

This P4 is unrestored and completely original - it is the ideal touring car and at 80,000 miles is barely "run in". P4s were beautifully engineered and their survival rate today, 50 to 60 years later, is testimony to their quality.

**Contact Rhys 0419 322 366**



**FOR SALE**

2018 16ft Tilt Tray car carrier. As new condition. Electric Brakes, Manual Winch, Sides all round Large Tool Box Mag Wheels, Spare Wheel. Powder Coated. (Rego No Y64293).

Price \$5,500 **Contact Barry Wickham - 0427100102**



**FOR SALE**

1926 Black English Star Tourer 1 of 3 in this model Imported from England  
Have a complete spare engine Low mileage Restored by Club member Graeme Birkett  
Registration number is - 4992 (club plates) Car number - B068 Engine number - LC63  
Price - \$40,000 open to offers

**Contact Annaliese Robinson - 0409 941 226**

(contact was via the club website)

**APPROVED SAFETY CHECKERS**

The Club's approved safety checkers for pre 1949 vehicle initial Club Permit applications are:

Neale Goad Automotive, 206 Burnbank Street, Wendouree Phone 5339 2056 Contact Neale  
Reptile Gulch Motors, 209 Doveton Street, Ballarat Phone 53337206 Contact Henry

**CLUB CALENDAR – NOVEMBER 2023 – JANUARY 2024**

For the Details of Events, See Pages 5 and 6

**Twilight Motorcycle Runs** are held on Wednesday evenings, mid-month – weather dependent – during daylight saving months. To be informed of these runs, give Chris Ridsdale – 0448 423 001 – your contact details.

<b>NOV</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Time</b>
Wed	8th	Club Library open	Come - have a cuppa & chat	Daryl Meek	0407881288	10am – 12pm
Wed	8th	Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch	Clubrooms	Ray & Marj Drury	0417840623	11am-2.30pm
<b>Sat</b>	11th	Ladies Craft Afternoon	Clubrooms	Jenny Ure	0409954077	1:30-4pm
<i>Sat/Sun</i>	<i>11&amp;12</i>	<i>Bendigo Swap Meet</i>				
Wed	15th	Calvary/Kelaston Display	2-4 Park St Wendouree	Brendan Stevens	0409018867	1:15 - 2:30pm
Thurs	16th	Rustless Wanderers	Swiss Mountain Pub Blampied	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
<b>Fri</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>Club General Meeting</b>	<b>At Clubrooms</b>			<b>8pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>Club Run (Trophy Points) Beaufort Show</b>	<b>Beaufort Showgrounds – leave from Ballarat Drs car park</b>	<b>Brendan Stevens</b>	<b>0409018867</b>	<b>9am</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>Pre 30's Annual Tour (Trophy Points)</b>	<b>Haddon Lions Park &amp; Recreation Centre</b>	<b>Mark Border</b>	<b>0438399609</b>	<b>Reg 8.30am</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>Committee Meeting</b>	<b>Clubrooms</b>			<b>7:30pm</b>
Wed	22nd	Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch	Clubrooms	Ray & Marj Drury	0417840623	11am-2..30pm
<i>Sun</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Maldon Swap Meet</i>				
<i>Sun</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Springfest Ballarat</i>	<i>Show &amp; Glow \$5/vehicle</i>	<i>Road Rodders</i>	<i>0407802269</i>	<i>10-4pm</i>
<b>DEC</b>						
Sat	2nd	Any Vehicle Morning	Wendouree Parade near the clock	Andy Burns	0428935988	9:30am
<b>Sun</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<i>Llanely Bike Swap meet</i>	<i>Llanely Hall (Bendigo)</i>			
Sun	3rd	Naked Radiator Run	Departs Clubrooms	Frank & Jan Tamis	0475192372	10:30am
Sat	9th	Ladies Crafternoon	Clubrooms	Jenny Ure	0409954077	1.30-4pm
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>Club Run (Trophy Points)</b>	<b>BBQ lunch at Clubrooms with Rocker Cover Racing</b>	<b>Andy Burns</b>	<b>0428935988</b>	<b>12:00noon</b>
Wed	13th	Club Library open	Come - have a cuppa & chat	Daryl Meek	0407881288	10 - 12noon
Wed	13th	Chat, Coffee, BYO Lunch	Clubrooms	Ray & Marj Drury	0417840623	11am-2.30pm
Thurs	14th	Rustless Wanderers	XMAS TBA	Rick Thege	0428518770	12 noon
<b>Fri</b>	<b>15th</b>	<b>Club General Meeting</b>	<b>Clubrooms</b>			<b>8pm</b>
Sun	17th	Carols by Candlelight	Display at Mars Stadium	Brendan Stevens	0409018867	TBA
Mon	25th	Xmas day	Merry Xmas everyone !!!			
<b>JAN</b>						
Mon	1st	Sports Car Run	Bus Exchange Melbourne Road	Ray Reynolds	53317029	9:30am
Wed	10th	Club Library open	Come – have a cuppa and chat	Daryl Meek	0407881288	10 - 12noon
<b>Fri</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>Club General Meeting</b>	<b>Clubrooms</b>			<b>8pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>Club Run (Trophy Points)</b>	<b>Picnic at Kirks Reservoir – Bikes, Trucks &amp; Cars all welcome</b>	<b>Brendan Stevens</b>	<b>0409018867</b>	<b>4pm-7pm</b>
<i>Sun</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Colac Motorfest</i>				
<i>Sun</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Centre State Swap Meet</i>	<i>Bendigo</i>			

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



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Tel. 5335 8371



25 Mair Street Ballarat  
Tel. 5331 7288

David Waight Club Member

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0419 268 325

[shannonsballarat@hotmail.com](mailto:shannonsballarat@hotmail.com)



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