

BACKFIRE

Volume 52 No 8 December 2018

PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219
www.wdhvcgeelong.com.au



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

Season's Greetings



*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.*

HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE - 2018/2019

PRESIDENT	Dallas Jones	0432 172 171
VICE PRESIDENT	David Mitchell (Libby)	0409 099 716
SECRETARY	Fred Harris (Sharyn)	secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com 5259 2053
TREASURER	Maurice Healy (Barbara)	mbhealy@gmail.com 5251 3413
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS	John Bailey (Julie Bennett)	0413 258 302
Rod Booley (Libby)	52815340	Cheryl Elliot 5248 0734
Damian Giustini (Teena)	0418 587 415	David Perkins (Jennifer) 0409 432 128
Rod Roach (Lorraine)	0438 783 902	Leone Saliba 0421 081 013
Gus Shea (Pam)	0400 203 151	Barb van Galen (Ray) 5278 9368
RALLY CO-ORDINATOR	Rod Booley (Libby)	52815340
LONG DISTANCE RALLY CO-ORDINATOR	Sharyn Harris (Fred)	5259 2053
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	John Bailey (Julie Bennett)	0413 258 302
EDITOR	Jon Breedveld (0417 311 441)	editor@wdhvcgeelong.com
WEB SITE	webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com	Damien (Gus) Giustini (Teena) 0418 587 415
MINUTE SECRETARY	Leigh Dwyer (5254 3149)	Em. Laurie Mills, Libby Booley
CRAFT NIGHTS	Shirley Kaub	0450 874 025
CLUBROOM & EQUIPMENT CARETAKERS	Max McKenzie 5248 2380	Syd Clifton 5243 0053
	Bernie Turner 5248 5743	
MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR	Barb van Galen (Ray)	5278 9368
TINKER DAYS	Ray van Galen (Barb)	0411 954 865 5278 9368
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Jeanette Dragt	nettedgt@gmail.com 5282 1510
VEHICLE COMPLIANCE OFFICERS	Gus Shea (Pam) 0400 203 151	Dallas Jones 5266 1319
BAY CITY SWAP DIRECTOR	Fred Harris (Sharyn)	5259 2053
BAY CITY SWAP COMMITTEE	John Bailey	0413 258 302 Murray Foran 5248 2553
Max McKenzie	52482380	Mike Hanneysee 5222 3197 Ray van Galen 5278 9368
CLUB MERCHANDISE SALES	David Mitchell	0409 099 716 Rod Roach (Lorraine) 0438 783 902
PRINTING OFFICER	Peter Telfer (Gaylene)	5248 8610
CLUB PHOTO MAINTENANCE	Barry Collinson (Lorraine)	5259 3625
LIBRARIAN	Gary McCredden (Sadie)	5275 2544
FEDERATION DELEGATES	Cheryl Elliot and David Perkins	
LADIES COMMITTEE CO-ORDINATORS	Pam Shea (Gus)	0487 696 097
	Rhonda Foran (Murray) 5248 2553	Jeanette Dragt 5282 1510
RGAPS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE	vacant	
LIFE MEMBERS	Max Tucker	Trevor Schneider Max McKenzie
	Fred Harris	Tom Ivory
CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR	Rod Booley	
ERIC BAKER MEMORIAL AWARD	Gary McCredden	

Cover Photo: Jack Thomas's T-Model Ford provided Santa with some classy transport!

CONTENTS

HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE - 2018/2019	2
CONTENTS	3
PRESIDENT'S PIECE	3
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES	4
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd and September Feature Vehicle	5
DECEMBER FEATURE CAR/DINE OUT.	6
MARS BAR COMP AND XMAS DANCE ENTERTAINER.....	7
MAICO CHAMPION	8
MAICO CHAMPION	9
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	10
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	11
WORLDS WORST CARS	12
BIT MORE ABOUT THE MIACO	13
PENNY FARTHING ON DISPLAY	14
RALLYS AND RUNS	15
BENDIGO SWAP	16
FOR SALE	17
CLUB NOTICE AND MEMBER PROFILE	18
THINGS TO DO	19
CALENDER	20

President's Piece

This is the edition where I wish everyone a very happy Christmas. But better than that, I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Christmas. Whether you celebrate the festive season or not, and for whatever reason, it is such a good time to catch up with family and friends that you somehow can't find the time to during the year.

The Bendigo Swap is over for another year. At the time of writing this, only 360 more sleeps until the next one! Firstly thanks to David and John for taking on the club site this year. For those who go to the swap, I am certain you all appreciate the facility we have there to put your feet up for a while, grab a cuppa and a biscuit or perhaps leave some heavy item so you can continue your search. A lot of effort goes into setting up the tent etc, so once again thanks to David and John for their efforts. Also thanks must go to our ex-President John who each year organises a bus and drives our members there and back. Thanks John, I know the members appreciate it.

This year I shared a site with young Ray Matthews. His 43rd year (correct me if I'm wrong). We had a really good time and I enjoyed a history lesson on the Bendigo Swap and all sorts of things in Geelong's past. I was also fortunate to get a good look around the swap and was able to buy much of what was on my shopping list, and a few items that weren't!

I'm please to say that the Geelong Museum of Motoring and Industry has opened it's doors at last. Having moved from Mackay St over 2 years ago, the collection has been in storage while a suitable premises and permits could be obtained. It has been quite a difficult road!

It is now located in building 5 Waymounth St. Hamlyn Heights. Well done to all the tireless volunteers who have helped get this up again, many from our club. Make sure you get along to have a look at it soon. I'll have a chat with our rally director and see if we can arrange a club outing there in the new year.

So as I usually say, get out in your car or get out in your shed. However, more likely that we should be out in the car with the weather being so good now.

Dallas

FEDERATION REPORT Cheryl

Cheryl reported on the 13/10/2018 Federation meeting.

Topics covered included:

Federation News will be available 3 times per year;
Vic Roads confirm that mobile Police can access Club plate registration details;
Luxury car tax on vehicles over 30 years old and Asbestos restrictions discussed.

COMMITTEE REPORT David

No report as there was no Committee Meeting held since the last General Meeting.

MERCHANDISE David

Drink holders now available for pick up.

TINKER DAY Ray

Thanks to Karl Lorenz for last month's successful Tinker Day.
Ken and Jenny Parry will be the hosts this month.

MARS BAR AWARD Ray

Libby Booley correctly guessed Bernie Turner.

VEHICLE PERMITS Gus

A member of the Geelong MG Car Club was recently fined \$1200 for not signing their Log Book.

Rod Anderson spoke briefly on his 1966 Mustang convertible. He has had the left hand drive car for 11 years and is enjoying having it back on the road.

CRAFT NIGHT Linda

Bring a plate for a joint Tech Night Christmas party from 6:00. .

RALLY REPORTS/EVENTS Rod

A member reported on the Wangaratta Club's recent rally.
Thanks to Rod for organising, and the members for providing, 6 cars at the recent Belmont Primary school fair.

Upcoming events:

Bendigo Swap bus this week
Hot Dog run 18th Nov
Coffee Run 6th Dec
Waterfront display 9th Dec
Bicycle Show 2nd Dec
Dinner Dance 15th Dec



LONG DISTANCE RALLY Sharyn

No report this month.

TECH NIGHT Peter

Christmas party from 6:00 then 'special' tools.

SWAP MEET Fred

Please hand out our 2019 flyers at the Bendigo Swap

KITCHEN Rhonda

No report this month.

GUEST SPEAKER

No guest speaker this month.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Please bring a plate to the next meeting.

Thanks to David Perkins for setting up the Club tent at the Bendigo Swap

The Geelong Car Museum is about to reopen in Herne Hill

The Penny Farthing races and bicycle swap meet will be held in Geelong West on 2nd Dec.

The Club congratulated Max McKenzie on recently being awarded Life Membership of the RGAPS for his contribution to the Society.

FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

Simon Anderson has recently purchased a 1909

Hupmobile from Canberra.

Max Tucker would like to sell his 1928 Ford Model A.

Eddie Thorpe is waiting on the delivery of a Jaguar

Special.

See Fred Harris if you are interested in a 1926 Dodge

Tourer looking for a new home.

Meeting closed at 9:05

Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 11th December 2018 in the clubrooms.

December Feature Vehicle

Rob Anderson bought his 1966 GT Mustang which has been in his family for around 30 years.

There is no doubt that 1966 is one of the most popular [Ford Mustang](#) model years in the history of the car. In fact, [March 1966](#) marked the creation of the millionth Mustang, signaling its significance in classic car history.



Midweek Dine Out

Our last midweek dine out at the Great Western Hotel had a special meaning for our members as it was Max Tucker's 80th Birthday on the day. Max and Gwen's daughter, Catrina had made a lovely birthday celebration cake for him and we all got to have a slice after singing Happy Birthday to Max. These popular dine outs are a great way of getting to know your fellow car club members, and share important moments with them and have a good old chit-chat.



Great Mars Bar Competition



OK, I cannot tell you if this is a lovely boy or a delightful girl. That is for you to work out, but I do know that he or she is a very nice person, likes small cars and is now all grown up. I think the curly hair is going to give away who it is though. Your guess will win you a monster big Mars bar if you get it right.

Please sneak in your photo submissions to Ray van Galen. Ph 52789 368, or email them to;

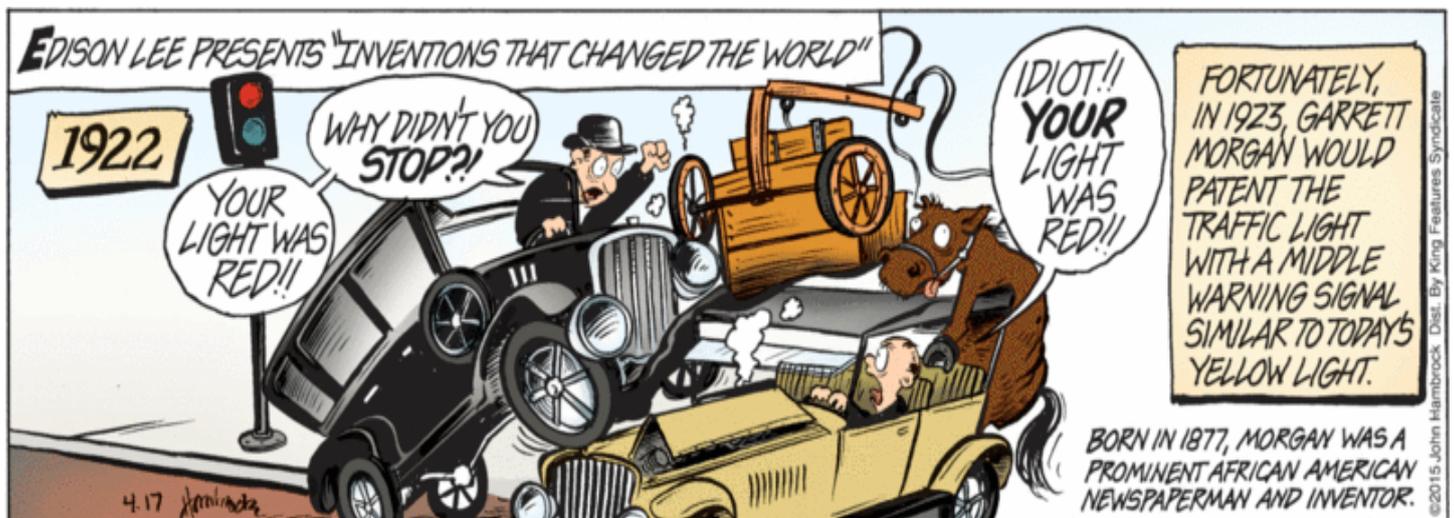
rbvangalen@gmail.com

Introducing Allen James who will be entertaining us at our Xmas Dinner



Allan's professional music career started at age 17 performing throughout Victoria in several of Geelong's most successful cover bands including Portrait, the Silver Haze Show band, Haze Brothers and All Shook Up. During this stint he also supported many headline acts such as the Easy Beats, The Mixtures and The Hollies as well as cabaret/show performers – Ugly Dave Gray, Frankie Davidson, Normie Rowe, the Four Kinsmen and many more.

Although now performing regularly as a soloist, specializing in music for the "baby boomers", Allan also plays in the very popular cover band "Charli", playing alongside two amazing female musicians – Tamara and Jude. This line up is in high demand, for corporate events, wedding receptions, festivals and private parties.



ROAD TEST

"MOTOR MANUAL"

recently tested the first of a series of new small midget cars which are due to hit the Australian market soon. The particular model under discussion is the German Maico Champion which is being handled in Victoria by a motor cycle firm, Milledge Bros., of Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. Firstly, to fit things into place, it should be understood that several thousand Champion cars were produced in Germany directly after the war in convertible form by the Champion and allied firms. Maico is a well-known firm of motor cycle manufacturers in Germany and has recently bought the Champion firm out. They have continued the production of the four-wheeler car but in slightly different form to that which is already known. The new Champion is a two-door saloon of compact dimensions which seats four persons, gives motor cycle running costs and quite a brisk performance for its size. The type is known as the type 500.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.

Basically the Maico Champion 500 is a light four-seater saloon with the following mechanical features. The chassis is independent of the body and is fabricated from steel tubes with outriggers supporting the body. Four-wheel independent suspension is employed using rubber as the suspending medium. Spring dampers are telescopic. The brakes are hydraulically operated and act on all four wheels which are of the disc type. A mechanical hand-brake acts on the rear wheels only. Steering is by rack and pinion. The car is powered by a well-known German engine—the Heinkel.

This power unit is of two-cylinder, two-stroke design, is water cooled and is placed at the rear of the car. Having an exactly "square" engine of 66 mm. bore and 66 mm. stroke the capacity is 452 c.c. With a compression ratio of 7.2:1 with which to burn its petrol mixture fuel. The developed brake horsepower is 18 at 4,000 r.p.m.



More about the Midgets: We drive, with surprise, the 4½ h.p.—

Maico Champion

The gearbox, clutch and engine together with the final drive could be said to be in unit. The gearbox is a four-speed affair with synchromesh on the three upper ratios. It drives through a single dry plate clutch to the spiral bevel final drive. Considering the compact overall dimensions of the vehicle the seating of four passengers is quite an achievement although leg room in the rear seat is very cramped.

THE INTERIOR.

The car tested was the first in this country and had left-hand-drive. It came from the factory fully assembled with the exception of headlining which, in this case, was conventional felt, and therefore it is unknown what the models for sale will be like as they will have an Australian content and will be locally assembled.

The example tested was comfortable and the interior fittings were good. The layout of the driving components was also quite satisfactory with the exception of the floor-mounted gear lever which really had to be reached for if the driving seat was pushed back at all on its adjustable slide. Windows of the sliding type were fitted to the front while at the rear the windows were fixed in position. Seats in the front were of the bucket type and gave good support during the tests. At the rear bench seats are employed. Headroom is quite adequate

in both front and rear. The instrument panel consists of a speedometer with warning lights. Winking traffic direction indicators are fitted on the door pillars. Two electrically operated windscreen wipers cover rather a small area of the screen during wet weather. The lights are one of the outstanding features of the car which can be driven up to its maximum speed at night on winding roads in absolute safety.

This is a point which the manufacturers of much larger and more expensive cars could look well into. Town driving at night on the dipped beams caused no annoyance to other road users yet still gave adequate illumination.

PERFORMANCE AND HANDLING.

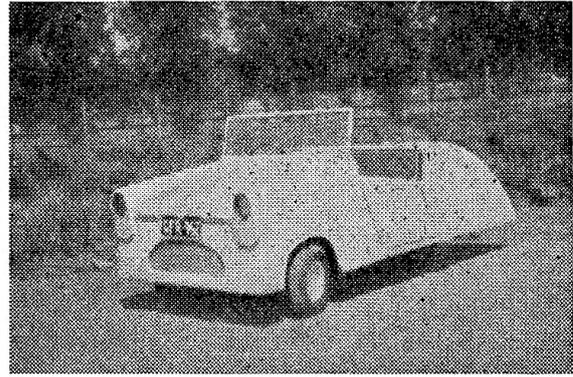
On the road the little Champion was surprisingly nippy. Its smallness allowed it to be shuffled in and out of town traffic with ease. The steering, light and very direct aided this although this very directness became tedious on longer journeys. The acceleration of the car makes it faster than several other well-known makes, however, after reaching 50 m.p.h., the speed climbs very slowly indeed. The clutch is light in operation and the gearbox after some practice is a delight to use. Fast changes must be made in order to get them through cleanly. The brakes stop the car most effectively and do

Australian Minicar Sells for £350, plus

Equipped with a Villiers 198 c.c. two stroke engine the "Edith" has the remarkable petrol consumption of 70 miles to the gallon, and, although it has a short wheelbase, it gives a very comfortable ride because of two transverse half elliptical springs in front, and heavy quarter elliptical rear springs and swinging arm. Tyres are 400 x 8.

This current model is fitted with two front and one rear wheel, but Mr. Gray anticipates that he will be producing a four-wheel job with a larger Ansaldo air-cooled engine in the near future. This will sell at a slightly higher price.

As is normal with two-stroke engines, there was quite a bit of engine noise, but no actual vibration. The car has quick acceleration through gears to a top speed of over 40 miles an hour with two adults aboard.

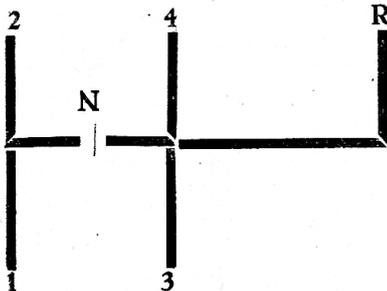


The Wheelbase of the car is 8 ft. 6 in., and the vehicle weighs only 585 lbs. The engine is mounted at the rear, the transmission being by chain and sprocket to the rear wheel. The luggage compartment is at the front end of the unit.

The car is made by Gray and Harper, 293-297 North Road, Huntingdale.

not fade, however, rather heavy pedal pressures are necessary. The handbrake holds the car well on hills. With regard to handling, the Champion has a definite oversteer characteristic very like that of the Volkswagen. When corners are taken hard the tail quickly comes around and it takes some little practice with the steering to master this tendency. The car is at its best on rough roads for although being light the suspension is well able to cope with this sort of work.

In sum, when this little German car arrives here in force it may be expected to sell quite well for it is economical, speedy, seats four persons in reasonable comfort and the upkeep should be low. The vehicle may look like it is only a toy but if the price is kept down to the present estimation it is likely to take quite a number of sales away from the already established lines.



MAICO CHAMPION...

Price: £695 (estimated)
Mileage: Out, 748; In 819; Total, 71
From: Milledge Bros.

Weather: . . . Fine, dry roads
Other cars in same price class: Nil
Delivery: On application

ENGINE
2 cyls. Bore: 66 mm.
Stroke: 66 mm. Capacity:
452 c.c. Comp. ratio: 7.2:1.
Valves: Nil. Rated h.p.:
4.5. B.H.P.: 18 at 4,000
r.p.m.

TRANSMISSION
Clutch: Single dry plate.
Gearbox: Four-speed. Prop-
ellor shaft: Nil (rear en-
gine. Final drive: Spiral
bevel. Top gear m.p.h. at
1,000 r.p.m.: 13 (approx.).

SUSPENSION
Front: I.F.S. by swinging
arms and rubber torsion
elements with telescopic
dampers. Rear: I.R.S. by
swinging arms and rubber
torsion elements with tele-
scopic dampers.

STEERING
Rack and pinion. Turning
circle: 28 ft. Turns of
steering wheel (lock to
lock): 2½.

BRAKES
Hydraulic. Outboard drum
brakes.

DIMENSIONS
W'base: 6 ft. 9 in.
Length: 11 ft. 0 in. Width:
4 ft. 11½ in. Height: 4 ft.
10½ in. Ground clearance:
6½ in. Tyres: 4.80 x 15.
Weight (dry): 10½ cwt. Pet-
rol tank: 4½ gals. Track:
Front, 4 ft. 1 in.; Rear, 4
ft. 1 in. Luggage capacity:
6 cu. ft. Weight distribu-
tion, front/rear: 42/58
(approx.).

**PERFORMANCE
SUMMARY**
Acceleration times through
the gears: 0-30 m.p.h., 7.6
sec.; 0-40 m.p.h., 12.9 sec.;
0-50 m.p.h., 22.6 sec.
Standing quarter mile: 27.9
sec. Acceleration times
from constant speeds: 10-30
m.p.h., 20.6 sec.; 20-40
m.p.h., 17.7 sec.; 30-50
m.p.h., 22.0 sec. Maximum
speed: 57.5 m.p.h. Aver-
age m.p.g.: 55. Maximum
speeds in gears: 1st, 15
m.p.h.; 2nd, 25 m.p.h.; 3rd,
35 m.p.h. Brakes (from 30
m.p.h. to stop): 32 ft.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WDHVC EVENTS

**See also -
calendar summary
on back page.**

27 NOVEMBER - TUESDAY

BACKFIRE FOLDING MORNING 9am Clubrooms

Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938

27 NOVEMBER - TUESDAY

CRAFT NIGHT/TECH NIGHT "Special Tools"

A special night for all who have attended Craft Night or Tech Night during the year. Be there 6pm with a big plate with lots of Christmas feast goodies. We will feast till around 7.30, then, into the usual fun.

There will not be a December Craft Night/Tech Night, because that date is December 25th. I had planned for a special guest speaker, but he is on holiday. So I have postponed the planned "Ball & Roller Bearings" subject till next year.

November Tech Night will now be "SPECIAL TOOLS". Bring along any kind of special tools, for any use. Lindsay will bring lots of special tools for washing machines. Hopefully, Robin will bring along all sorts of push bike tools. Ray will almost certainly keep us entertained with motor bike tools. Here's the challenge for you all to bring the weirdest and/or most practical tools for any use. Remember to sign the book (one signature per person), to have a chance to win a \$25 dollar fuel voucher. Also remember to wear your name badge (if you are from another club, that's OK, you still get your chocolate frog, just wear your badge

Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938

6 DEC - THURSDAY

MORNING COFFEE RUN.

Meet at clubrooms at 9.45am, Sharp.

Contact Rod Booley, 5281 5340, 0417 021 982.

9 DEC - SUNDAY

GEELONG WATERFRONT CAR DISPLAY

Meet at Cunningham Pier at 10.30am. Parking will be on the Lawn beside the pier.

Contact Rod Booley, 5281 5340, 0417 021 982.

11 DECEMBER - TUESDAY

GENERAL MEETING 7.30pm. Clubrooms.

12 DECEMBER - WEDNESDAY

DINE OUT 6.15pm.

Save up the dollars and cents, then come and join us.

Contact Gary McCredden 5275 2544

13 DECEMBER - THURSDAY

TINKER DAY.

Start time 10.00am from our clubrooms, **or** meet at Ken and Ethel Sheppard's place in Moriac for our Christmas get together. Ken would like us at his place at 10.30am on the dot. As in the past, the Primary School children are going to entertain us with their Christmas carols. The Sheppard family will put on a great spread for us as usual, but could you all bring either a SALAD or a SWEET to help out on the day. Please ring Barb van Galen as to which you will bring on the day. As usual, BYO Special diet food, Chairs, Thermos, and sense of humour.

Ray van Galen. Home Ph 5278 9368. Ray's Mobile. 0411 954 865. Barb's Mobile. 0408 664 537

18 DECEMBER - TUESDAY

COMMITTEE MEETING 7.30pm. Clubrooms.

15 DEC - SATURDAY

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE

WDHVC, Christmas Dinner Dance at the Clubrooms. Starts at 6.00pm, Dinner served at 6.45pm. \$25.00 P/P. BYO Glasses and Dancing Shoes. Contact Rhonda Foran, 5248 2553/0409841700

16 DEC - SUNDAY

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

11am at the Clubrooms. \$25 limit and could the gifts be wrapped and delivered before the event please.

Contact: Rod Booley 5281 5340 (0417 021 982)

24 Feb - Sunday

Car Boot Sale and BBQ at the Clubrooms. Details Later.

28 DECEMBER - FRIDAY

JANUARY BACKFIRE DEADLINE By 5pm please.

Jon Breedveld 0417 311 441

8 Jan - Tuesday

Sausage Sizzle prior to the January Meeting, 6.00pm Start

We have been invited along with other local car clubs to join a display of British vehicles, organised by the MG Car Club Geelong. We will have an allocated space along the Geelong Waterfront in the Transvaal Square area. Motorbikes are included and there are likely to be over 200 vehicles on display, so should be a great day to come along. Vehicles should plan to be in place by 10am and stay until 3:15pm.

David Mitchell 0409 099 716

OTHER EVENTS

28 & 29 NOVEMBER

TARGA FLORIO GEELONG.

2 DEC - SUNDAY SHOW

VICTORIAN PENNY FARTHING AND CLASSIC BICYCLE 2018 CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Geelong West Oval & Velodrome. Bicycle swap, show & shine, penny farthing races, bicycle races, decorated bicycles for the children.

5 JANUARY 2019 - SATURDAY CRUISIN' THE BELLARINE PENINSULA

Assemble 5.30pm; cruise heads off 6pm (All About Traffic Management supervision). 35 kms all sealed roads. Followed by food, refreshments, entertainment at the Drysdale Cricket Club.

12 Jan Saturday Portarlington Mussel Festival. Classic Car parking behind Port Pier Cafe at the bottom of Harding St, gates open at 6.00am.

6 JANUARY 2019 - SUNDAY DRYSDALE AUTOPRO CLASSIC CAR & BIKE SHOW

Cars assemble at 9am, show begins at 10am. Food, refreshments, live band, Cool Change, jumping castle for the kids. A real family day out. More details shortly.

24 March - Sunday

Federation Picnic at Mortlake. Details Later.

13 APRIL, 2019 - SATURDAY

ECHUCA SWAP MEET Rotary Park, Rose Street Echuca

Automotive parts & collectables welcome. Show & Shine display. 200 plus sites @ \$20 per site. On site catering. \$5 entry. Children under 15 free. Gates open: sellers 5am; buyers 7am
Enquiries: 0456 010 665, echucaswap@outlook.com \$500 to local charity.

LAST SUN EVERY MONTH

Werribee & District Collectable Vehicle Club Inc meet.

9am to noon (weather permitting) car park cnr. Cherry St & Kelly St Werribee. Free entry. Have a bite to eat and a coffee. Talk car stuff with car-minded people. Jeff 0412 705 245. John 0407 546 235.

- Rod Booley

1st ANNUAL ALL MAKES & MODELS
Bought to you by Daylesford Cars and Coffee

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17TH VICTORIA PARK, DAYLESFORD

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
FOOD AND TRADE STALLS
DISPLAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS
BEST DRESSED COMP AND LIVE MUSIC
\$5 ENTRY PER PERSON - U15 FREE
\$10 ENTRY FOR DISPLAY CARS INC DRIVER
DISPLAY VEHICLES FROM 7AM PUBLIC FROM 9AM

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES

GEELONG CYCLING CLUB - est. 1911
Proudly Presenting

The Victorian Penny Farthing Championships & Classic Bicycle Show
Sunday 2nd December 2018
Geelong West Oval & Velodrome
Cnr. Weddell & Church Streets

Paul Farren Memorial Trophy
Show and Shine All Makes
Featuring Malvern Star
Contact Mark: 0418 539 643

Bicycle Swap Meet
from 9am
Contact Glen: 0406 607 918

Penny Farthing Races
from 10am

Races for the Littlies

Decorated Bicycles
Contact Pat: 0447 483 717

This Year's Feature Bike
Show us your...

Children FREE **Venue Entry: \$5.00/Adult**

Enquiries Welcome
Robin: 0408 538 639 or Daryl: 0407 565 486
Event Details, Entry Costs and Bookings: <http://geelongcycling.com>

The World's Worst Cars?

Featuring cars dubbed a "Motoring Misfit" in the book *The World's Worst Cars*. Please don't take offence if your car features in this segment - the series is only a bit of fun to add to our magazine. And after all, the views expressed are only one man's opinion!

As taken from *The World's Worst Cars* by Craig Cheetham

MOTORING MISFITS

"Some cars are truly awful, yet it is impossible to pinpoint why. They are either out of place because they are so obscure, or – worse – are completely wrong in almost every respect. They are motoring monstrosities that should never have seen the light of day Many of them are historically interesting

Subaru XT Coupe (1985 – 90)

Specifications

TOP SPEED: 190 KM/H(118 MPH)
0-96KMH (0-60MPH); 9.5 SECS
ENGINE TYPE FLAT FOUR
DISPLACEMENT: 1781CC (110 CI)
WEIGHT: 1135 KG (2523 LB)
MILEAGE: 10.9 L per 100 km (26 MPG)

SUBARU XT COUPE STEERING OFF COURSE

Long before the all-conquering rally cars arrived, Subaru tried to get sporty, and the car with which it hoped to boost its performance image was this: the XT coupe. Not only was it quite obviously a styling aberration of the highest order, but it was also crudely engineered. Wedge shaped cars went out of fashion in the late 1970s, but somebody forgot to tell Subaru. The XT coupe looked like looked like a Triumph TR 7 on stilts.

It was based on the platform of the standard 1800 saloon, which in turn formed the basis of the Subaru pickup so loved the farmers across the globe. That meant it was fairly agricultural to drive, although the four-wheel-drive on offer at least meant it handled well despite the bouncy ride.



It was powerful as long as you didn't mind waiting for the turbo to spool up, meaning you could usually make a quick getaway before anyone looked inside and noticed the futuristic plastic dashboard – an exercise in appalling taste if ever there was one.

By far the car's most irritating design trait however was its steering wheel. Instead of a conventional two or three spoke layout, as with most normal cars,

the XT had a large L shaped spoke in the middle of the wheel, making it almost impossible to tell whether or not you are holding it in a dead straight position or were in fact about to go veering off in the opposite direction. Still, at least the four-wheel-drive helped you get out of trouble if you did get all confused.

Youthful Bad Looks

Once again, it was styling that earns Subaru's XT coupe a place in this rogues gallery. It may have been respectably powerful, but its looks were unappealing, even to the younger market.

The XT's case wasn't helped by its ability to corrode as well as most Japanese cars of the era, starting on the sills and working its way up the bodywork.

Subaru was aiming for a useful and sporty demographic with the XT, but it misread the market. The digital dials and tacky plastics were considered deeply uncool.

It's a Subaru, which means that the XT has a flat four engine and permanent four-wheel-drive. This makes it great to drive, but it's so ugly nobody cares.

- Graham Pretlove



A Bit About the Maico

At the October meeting, Ray asked a "question without notice" about one of the motorbike badges I had included on the October Backfire cover. Apart from the name "Maico" I knew nothing about the brand. By way of a backstory, I provide the following details (sourced with the help of Mr Google). - Ed



Maicowerk A.G. was a West German motorcycle manufacturer. Founded in 1926 by Ulrich Maisch as Maisch & Co, the company originally manufactured 98 and 123cc two-stroke

engines. After World War II, they began producing their own unit construction two-stroke engines, selling complete motorcycles.

Maico briefly made microcars. The Maico Mobil was produced from June 1950 through 1958 with aluminum bodywork and a tubular frame. Said to resemble a 'two wheeled car', it was a highly enclosed two-wheel motorcycle which sold only in small numbers. It was designed to provide motorcycle handling combined with scooter convenience, a large boot, and weather protection. It was nicknamed "the dustbin. Maico have also made go kart engines.



1973 Maico vintage dirt bike

The road motorcycles were named after winds... 'Blizzard' 'Typhoon' etc., but the company was better known for its purpose-built Motocross and Enduro machines, and for its 'Maicoletta' motor scooter, both of which sold in higher numbers than the road motorcycles.

The Maicoletta scooter of the 1950s was one of the largest motor scooters produced by any manufacturer until the modern era. The engine was a single cylinder 247cc piston port 2-stroke (an export version featuring a 277cc engine was also produced for use with a sidecar), with four foot-operated gears, enclosed chain drive, centrifugal fan cooling and electric start. This was fitted to a tubular frame built on motorcycle principles with long travel telescopic forks and 14-inch wheels.

The Maicoletta had a top speed of greater than 70mph, comparable with most 250cc motorcycles

of the time. In the 1950s most scooters were 125cc to 200cc with 8-10 inch wheels and a top speed of 55 to 60mph, so the expensive but fast and comfortable Maicoletta developed a following amongst scooter club enthusiasts.

Maico racing motorcycles

Maico motocross (MC) and enduro (GS) racing models proved very successful in both European and American competition throughout the 1970s. While lacking the financial capital and big money race-team backing like the Japanese factories Maico riders were a serious challenge and produced numerous top three finishes in the Motocross World Championships. The firm also had some Grand Prix road racing success between 1972 and 1973. The 1974 400cc and 440cc GP and 1981 490cc models along with any year 501cc motocross bike are some of the most sought-after vintage MX and twin-shock motorcycles to this day.

Maicowerk AG went bankrupt in 1983, but continued to produce small numbers of motocross and enduro models (re-badged as M-Stars in the United States) to 1986. After the company went out of business in 1986, its assets were taken over by a Dutch company, but to this day retains a strong cult following. Many riders restore vintage Maicos for display or to take back to the track.



CLUB MERCHANDISE

Show You Belong

The WDHVC has items on display in the cabinet at the rear of the Clubrooms for members to purchase.

Members can select from:

Coffee Mugs	\$15
Lapel Badges	\$10
WDHVC Metal Car Badges	\$25
Black Geelong Plates	\$33
Replica Inaugural Metal Club Badge	\$20
50 th Anniversary Metal Badges	\$20
WDHVC pens	\$4 each or 3 for \$10
WDHVC Log Book Reminder Stickers	\$2

Magnetic WDHVC Badges	\$4 each or 3 for \$10
Windscreen Banners	\$10

Contact:

David Mitchell (Ph 0409 099 716)
or Rod Roach (Ph 0438 783 902)

On Display at our General Meeting

Was this Penny Farthing

The American Star is said to have been the only major American innovation in the design and configuration of the bicycle. It was patented in 1881 in the United States of America by George W. Pressey, and made by the H.P. Smith Machine Co. of Smithville, New Jersey, in the late 1880s.



Will Robertson of the Washington Bicycle Club rides an American Star Bicycle down the steps of the United States Capitol in 1885.



COME ALONG AND JOIN US FOR THE
ALL FORD DAY 2019



SAVE THE DATE!

Entries are now open for the 28th Annual All Ford Day!

Open to clubs and individuals alike, entrants are asked to register their vehicles to be displayed or judged in a number of categories.

Spaces fill fast so we recommend registering via the link below to guarantee your spot and receive the following great benefits:

DISCOUNTED ENTRY FEE
COMPLIMENTARY EVENT PROGRAM
DIRECT ACCESS TO THE SHOW CAR ARENA

Join us for all the action from 9am to 3pm on Sunday 17th February 2019. This one is not to be missed!

This year, All Ford Day will be bigger and better! Join us at our new location:

Sutcliffe Reserve 240-268 Plantation Road, Corio

There will be plenty of free parking available.

Event Times

Date: Sunday 17th February 2019

Time: 9am to 3pm

Location: Sutcliffe Reserve 240-268 Plantation Road, Corio

Parking: Free Parking on Site

Admission

The All Ford day is a great day out for the whole family. Tickets can be purchased online or at the gate.

Expressions of Interest to all Motoring Exhibitors and Vendors

If you wish to be part of the fantastic All Ford Day event please contact us!

We are located at
6 Brougham Street, Geelong

Our phone number is
03 5215 1181

RALLIES & RUNS

G
E
E
L
O
N
G
W
A
T
E
R
F
R
O
N
T
C
A
R
D
I
S
P
L
A
Y



Tinker Day

13 DECEMBER - THURSDAY

Start time 10.00am from our clubrooms, **or** meet at Ken and Ethel Sheppard's place in Moriac for our Christmas get together. Ken would like us at his place at 10.30am on the dot. As in the past, the Primary School children are going to entertain us with their Christmas carols.

The Sheppard family will put on a great spread for us as usual, but could you all bring either a SALAD or a SWEET to help out on the day. Please ring Barb van Galen as to which you will bring on the day.

As usual, BYO Special diet food, Chairs, Thermos, and sense of humour.

Ray van Galen. Home Ph 52789368.
Rays Mobile. 0411 954 865

Barbs Mobile. 0408 664 537

LAST MONTHS SMELL THE ROSES REPORT.

The weather was decidedly dodgy in the morning and I think the Revival car event at the water front was wetter than they would have liked. But just the same I had some company on the start of our ride. Off we went to see 13th beach which was deserted and then onto the wind/kite surfers at Ocean Grove main beach, they were having a ball in the strong onshore wind, and they were too busy to feel the cold.

The drizzle came and it was time to motor on to Fred and Sharyn's place for scones and cream which were devoured with great gusto! We all had a

good time even if we were not many in numbers.

Participants were;

Ray van Galen on a Honda Shadow.

Manuel Valla on his trusty BSA.

Judith and Ray Matthews in the red Capri.

Graham and Helen Cameron in a modern car.

Fred and Sharyn as our hosts. (Thank you for the nice food)

Let's hope for better weather next February.

December Smell The Roses

December already has enough clowns on the road without me as well, so we will not have a smell the roses day this month

- Ray van Galen.

Bendigo Swap Meet

Bendigo Swap a Great Day

The Bendigo Swap bus was again a roaring success for the 25 hardy bargain hunters who rolled up for a 6am start at the clubrooms and a 2.5hr trip to Bendigo. These determined men and women tramped many kilometres around the seemingly endless lines of stalls to secure that wanted (or perhaps unwanted?) item. Perfect weather, laughter and good company made the experience all the more enjoyable. Our little box trailer came home fairly full as evidence of a successful day. Items bought included milk cans, tyres, a 2 stroke motor, wheels and a bargain hank of rope (Which came in handy to help secure the tarp in the way home – thanks Ray: we forgive you for holding us up while you retrieved your shoulder bag.)

David Mitchell's guest, Laurie Ulph, was the winner of the raffle for free entry to the swap, with the other donated entry pass being bestowed on our jovial driver, John Bailey, who did another sterling job in piloting us safely to and from.

Ray van Galen took out the prize for the most money spent at the swap, with creditable performances also registered by Graeme Paech, Harold Newton and David Mitchell.

Another worthy inclusion in our club's busy activities calendar.

Thanks to all who contributed. - Ed



FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale



1954 Willys Aero Ace Deluxe 4 door Sedan with 'F' head 6 cyl.



The Photo above is not the actual car but a coloured one to show how appears

1954 Willys Aero 4 door, 6 cylinder, overdrive manual. Made in Toledo Ohio. RHD. Gun metal grey. Good rally car. Red plates 03614-H. \$18,500. O.N.O Call Colin 5248 4417.

DIXCO diagnostic analyser for electronic and standard ignition systems (12 volt). \$75

Power timing light 305/c Fox Valley \$35.

Both in good order. Come with Instruction manuals.

Items individually \$75 and \$35 respectively or \$95 the lot. Call Barry on 0408 525 157.

Triumph Stag 1976 3.5 Leyland motor, 5 speed Gearbox. Reg 22772H. \$8000

Information—John Deere Tractor & mower. Geelong Agricultural & Pastoral Society is still missing its \$80,000 tractor and mower combine, stolen from the showgrounds in early October. Contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 if you can help.

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

1971 HG Kingswood sedan. 186 motor HG0763M \$3500. **1968 HK Kingswood station wagon.** 186 motor 01288D. \$1600. Both vehicles complete and running. Call Ray 0415 512 269

1951 Standard Vanguard Ute.

An older restoration in V G condition. VIN1831102; Reg. SV051. Includes: May 2019 rego; near new tyres, new battery, original manuals; some spares; personalised plates (for Victorian buyers).

Phase III cross drilled crack engine and overdrive gear box. Minor rust in T sections on top of guard - otherwise is rust free. ***** No RWC.** Well known in the Vanguard car community. Further information on request. Only genuine enquiries please and no time wasters.

Call Ken McFarlane 5244 1860 after 6pm.

Reasonable offers considered.



Wrecking: Falcon ED 1994. All parts in good order. Cheap. Call Max 0439 688 990

Notice to all members and affiliates.

We have been having problems with our current Website going offline along with great difficulty getting emails.

The Committee decided to change provider (ISP) which will be a lot more stable and effectively around 10 times cheaper for the same if not better product.

The current site is

<http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com.au>

The New site is

<http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com>

In other words leave the dot and the au off at the end.

New emails for Club Editor the Secretary and myself will now be

(In lowercase please)

secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com

editor@wdhvcgeelong.com

webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com

At the next committee meeting we will decide if any other emails will be required

Thanks Gus

For sale/wanted ads are free to Members and appear for **two issues** of *Backfire*. To remove advertisements from the [newsletter](#) email earlier editor@wdhvcgeelong.com.au (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.au/wdsale.html>

All ads remain on the website until you request their removal. To remove an ad from the [website](#), email webd3sign@wdhvcgeelong.com.au (Ph 0418 587 415).

WDHVC MEMBER PROFILE



Name?

Ken

Where were you born?

St Arnaud

Family?

Wife Ethel, 4 children, 7 grand children

Number of years in the WDHVC?

8 years

Other interests?

Gardening and collecting items for my shed

What was your first vehicle?

1927 Austin 7

What vehicle would you love to own?

Rolls Royce

What vehicles do you have now?

1967 VL Commodore

Profession?

Farmer

Skills?

Many

What bugs you the most?

People who leave the supermarket trolleys in a car park

What makes you happy?

Happy wife is a happy life.

- Libby

Here's something to fill a page to make it even for a Newsletter

Things to see and do over the next few months



Berwick Swap Meet 2019

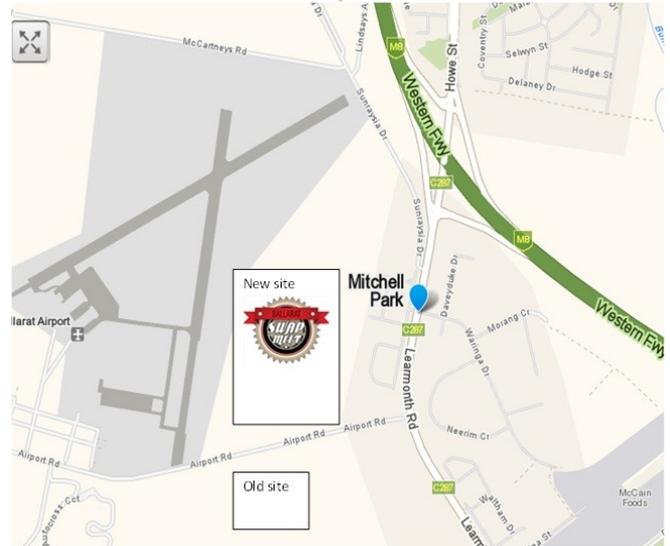
The next Berwick Swap Meet is on Saturday 2nd February 2019 hosted by the Dandenong Valley Historic Car Club at Akoonah Park Berwick.

The DVHCC held its first Swap Meet at the Clubrooms grounds, Glasscocks Road in Bangholm in 1978 only four years after the DVHCC was formed.

The event was quiet small in comparison to the Berwick Swap that is held today.

Berwick Vintage Vehicle Swap Meet Akoonah Park, Princes Highway Berwick

Held on the first Saturday in February



February 2019



The Fox Classic Car Collection of prestige cars is housed in the historic Queen's Warehouse building built in 1890 on the corner of Collins Street and Batman's Hill Drive.

OPENING TIMES 2018 (TBC)

Tuesdays 10am - 2pm
Wednesdays 10am - 2pm
Saturdays 10am - 1pm

Special Opening:
Monday 27 March 10am - 2pm

Closed: Easter Saturday, 31 March 2018, ANZAC Day: Wednesday 25 April 2018 & Melbourne Cup: Tuesday, 6 November 2018.
Last Open Day for 2018: Wednesday 28 November



CASTLEMAINE LIONS CLUB SWAP MEET Camp Reserve, Castlemaine

Start: Sun 8th April 6a.m. | **End:** 3 p.m.

This is one of the biggest events in the shire for a one day event. With over 500 sites of car parts, vintage car parts, collectables & memorabilia and all catering on site. Stall holders can set up on Saturday after 11am.

Booking required for sites - \$20.m Public entry \$8.

Phone: 0418 517 830 / 03 5472 1955

If undelivered return to:
 WDHVC
 PO Box 200
 Newcomb VIC 3219

PRINT POST APPROVED
PP 1000/19091

**POSTAGE
 PAID
 AUSTRALIA**



BACKFIRE



19

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27 <i>Backfire</i> folding morning 9am Clubrooms	28	29	30 November	1
2	3	4	5	6 Morning Coffee Run Clubrooms 9.45am	7	8
9 Geelong Waterfront Car Display 10.30am	10	11 General Meeting 7.30pm Clubrooms	12 Dine Out 6.15pm Great Western	13 Tinker Day	14	15 Xmas Dinner Dance Starts 6pm
16 Children's Xmas Party 11am Clubrooms	17	18 Committee Meeting	19	20 Tinker Day Ken and Jenny Parry	21	22
23	24	25 <i>Season's Greetings</i> 	26	27	28 January 2018 <i>Backfire</i> Deadline	29
30	31	1 January	2	3	4	5