

BACKFIRE

Volume 52 No 7 November 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.



Douglas



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President's Piece

November and the weather is pretty much perfect. It was certainly perfect for the President's Rally. What an absolutely fabulous day. The activities were a lot of fun with car antics in the paddock.

Our ex-president challenged the vice president and myself to the tennis ball event. With David driving our car, me hanging out the window, and John driving his with his co-pilot Rod Booley, it was a close run thing. John beat us home by 1 second. Well done John. I suppose all that practice during setting up really helped. Seriously, nice driving to both you and David. It was a lot of fun.

Also on hand was Ivan Cave with his steam Locomobile and Jack Thomas with his model T taking people for joy rides. The day was wrapped up with the handing out of prizes and an impromptu auction with proceeds going to Phoebe's next swimming attempt in Turkey. Thanks to all the spirited bidders.

Then to top it all off, Ivan and Jack decided to have a drag race! I ran out to about 60m (yes I ran) and off they went! The steam car had the early lead but the T reeled it in at the end. It was a perfect finish with the two crossing the line dead level. Brilliant!

Now I'm desperate for suggestions for next year. Not a hope in hell of topping this rally.

Last month's talk from Phoebe and Libby Mitchell about Phoebe's swimming exploits was most enjoyable. What a champion we have in our midst with so many medals and records to her name.

The benefits of being in a club, particularly this club, was very evident to me last week. After the meeting John Hickford was chatting to me about my Clubman project, offering suggestions and contacts. During this chat he mentioned some old parts that might be of interest to me and he would let me know. The following Thursday I received a call from him saying indeed these items were available and by Thursday arvo I had them in my hand. These items will add considerably to the overall authenticity and look of this car. Thanks John.

That's all for this month.

So, get out in your car or out in your shed.

Dallas



The Clubman Project is progressing well

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No 585 OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.
HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON TUESDAY 9th OCTOBER 2018

PRESIDING

President Dallas Jones opened the meeting and welcomed three visitors from Toowoomba and 103 members to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

Sid Clifton, Ian Thomas, Max McKenzie, Jeanette Dragt, Lindsay Rogers, Eva Barwise, Colin Chappell, Bill Guthrie, Jean & Bernie Ellson, Mike Haneysee, Alex Booley, Barry Collinson, Noreen Melington, Tony Brincat, Robert East, Jane Milard, Ron Jackson, Harold Newton, Paul Strickland, Alex McLaws, Tim Booley.

Moved: LibbyBooley

Seconded: Jim Coates Carried

SICK LIST

None.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous general meeting as published in the *Backfire* confirmed as a correct record.

Moved: R Sykes

Seconded: Graham Cameron Carried

CORRESPONDENCE (Fred)

INWARD

Letters In

- Bendigo Bank -certificate for investment
- Bendigo Swap - site holder permit tickets
- RGAPS - Requirements for the Art society regarding the use of the clubrooms

Emails In

- Geelong All Ford Day—on the 17th Feb 9am - 3pm at the new location of Sutcliffe Reserve 240-268 Plantation Rd Corio
- Geelong Revival - Nov 23rd - 25th
- Tatong Tavern - Show us your Wheels Oct 28th 1pm- 4pm Proceeds to Royal Children's Hospital
- Gen U - thanks for our participation on 3rd October to their facility in Grovedale to display our cars.
- Werribee & District Collectable Vehicle Club - invitation to attend their Casual Sunday Morning Monthly event

OUTWARD

Letters Out

Nil

Letters Out

Nil

Moved: John Bailey

Seconded: Fred Dossier Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT (Maurice)

No report this month.

LIBRARY (Gary)

No report this month as Gary was still recovering from his dentist appointment.

DINE OUT (Gary)

Next Dine Out will be at Clifton Springs.

EDITOR (Jon)

Damien will be acting Editor for the December edition, when Jon is away

WEBSITE (Damien)

No issues.

FEDERATION REPORT (Cheryl)

No report this month.

COMMITTEE REPORT (David)

- The recent Committee Meeting;
 - Reinvested the Club Term Deposit;
 - Agreed to partially subsidise the Bendigo Swap bus cost;
 - Discussed the possibility of a Car Boot swap meet for members only; and
- Allocated a small float for the Rally Director. The Rally Director float will be to cover Committee pre-approved rally costs on a case by case basis.

MERCHANDISE (David)

Club drink holders now available.

TINKER DAY (Ray)

Last month's Tinker Day was at Ken & Sandra Batson's. Thanks Ken & Sandra for making it such a successful day. Karl Lorenz will be our host this month.

MARS BAR AWARD (Ray)

No one guessed Damien Giustini so he won the Mars Bar this month.

VEHICLE PERMITS (Gus)

- Three new vehicles on the club permit scheme this month.

Graeme Walker spoke to the meeting about his 1977 Fairlane on display at the meeting. The car was previously owned by Ken Parker and has found a good new home within the Club.

CRAFT NIGHT (Linda)

No report this month.

RALLY REPORTS/EVENTS (Rod)

- Another very successful coffee run with 34 members attending.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd

- A disappointing attendance on the recent Smell the Roses run.
- The recent pre-1959 Bay to Birdwood has the usual large number of participants.
- The Dodge National Rally was recently in the Geelong area. Approximately 50 cars from across Australia were on the Rally.
- Upcoming events:
 - ◊ More cars please for the Costa House run;
 - ◊ President's rally October 14th;
 - ◊ The Geelong Show has asked for Club cars to attend; and
 - ◊ Planning for the Avoca Rally underway.

LONG DISTANCE RALLY (Sharyn)

No report this month

TECH NIGHT (Peter)

Cooling systems at this month's Tech night

SWAP MEET (Fred)

No report this month.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- The Honour Boards have been updated.
- There have been some new donated additions to the Club's model car collection.

FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

Talk to Rod Booley if you are interested in his 2008 Dodge Nitro.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

***Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on
13th November 2018 in the clubrooms.***

- Leigh Dwyer



October Feature Vehicle

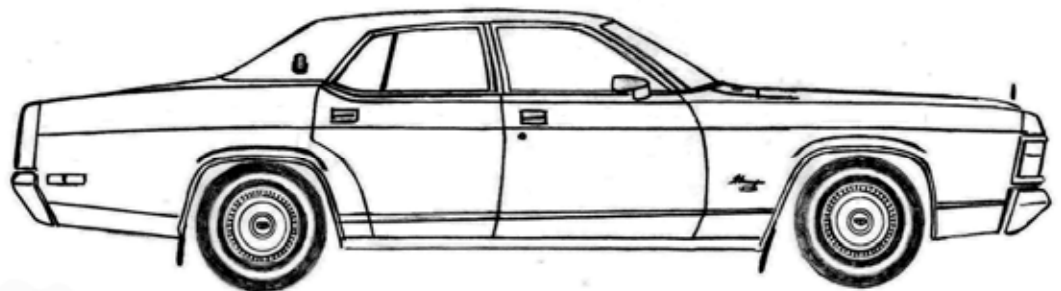
Graeme Walker brought his 1977 ZH Ford Fairlane Marquis into the workshop in October.

Graeme has owned the car for about four months, having acquired from the collection of the late Ken Parker. He says it is in "beautiful condition".

The up market Fairlane is a V8 5.8 litre with a four barrel carburetor and a unitary body construction.

In response to criticism that the early Fairlanes were too much like the Falcon, the designers went back to the 1968 Mercury Marquis for inspiration. The car features an electric driver's seat, electric windows, arm rests and A/C as standard.

The Marquis was Ford's response to the Statesman Caprice, which was introduced in 1974 as an LTD rival. ZH also moved to the use of the metric system to denote the engine sizes: the basic engine was known as the 4.9L, the other as the 5.8L. All ZH Marquises built after January 1979 had Borg-Warner differentials instead of the Ford 9-inch.



1977 ZH FAIRLANE MARQUIS

October Guest Speaker a Show Stopper

Our Program Director does a fantastic job in organising a range of guest speakers for our monthly meetings. He manages to find all sorts of people to speak to us and the presentations are invariably interesting and engaging.

However 27 year old Phoebe Mitchell, our guest speaker at the October meeting, evoked a special response from her audience. Phoebe, and her mother Libby, had members spellbound as they spoke disarmingly about Down Syndrome and Phoebe's considerable achievements as an international swimming champion at the World Down Syndrome Swimming Championships.

There was total attention to every word of the presentation. When Libby and Phoebe went to leave, members stood and applauded, moving forward to shake hands as they passed. The impact of their words and photographs was great and, I am sure, lasting.



Program director John Bailey thanks Phoebe and Libby, with proud dad David looking on.

Phoebe is the daughter of our club vice president, David Mitchell, and this made the night even more special.

Libby introduced the presentation with some details about Down Syndrome. Then Phoebe outlined her achievements when swimming for Australia.

By way of background, Libby explained that, while there are 14 categories at the Paralympics for people swimming with physical impairments, there is only one for those with an intellectual disability.

Down syndrome is the most common form of intellectual disability however those with Down syndrome have varying degrees of physical disabilities or impairments as well. So a swimmer with Down syndrome has to compete against able bodied athletes whose IQ was below 70. This means they have been outclassed and did not qualify for events like the Paralympics. Swimmers with Down syndrome could not compete on a level playing field, so could not enjoy the benefits experienced by able bodied athletes or those with a



**2016,
Florence
Italy**

more easily categorised disabilities, world wide.

This inequality led to the formation of the Down Syndrome Swimming Association which held its own world championships every two years. Today there are about 30 countries involved and about 250 swimmers with Down syndrome compete at the world championships.

Phoebe's Story

In 2008, aged 17 and in year 10 at Oberon High School, Phoebe was selected as the youngest member of the Australian Team and her journey began. She came home with a gold medal and her first world record.

In 2010 Phoebe represented Australia at Taipei in Taiwan. "I got more gold medals and world records. I was also named top female swimmer. Australia was the top country," Phoebe told us.

In 2012, she was selected in the Australian Team for the third time.

The World Championships were held in Loano in Italy. "Italy was lovely and we all had so much fun together," Phoebe said. "I was the female team captain. I also got more gold medals and world records and was again top female swimmer in the world."

In 2014, the World Championships were held in Morelia in Mexico. Phoebe was again in the team and in the leadership group. "The Mexicans built a new pool but it had a few problems because it wasn't finished. The rain came in the roof and the heating in the pool didn't work at first." Phoebe explained. "It was really colourful in Mexico and I loved it. We all bought hats."

"I got more gold medals in my events and in the relays and more world records and I was top female swimmer again in the world."

In 2016, the team went to Florence in Italy. Phoebe was the female captain. "It was really hot in Florence and the pool was outdoors," Phoebe said.

Show Stopper (ctd)

"I swam really well and got six individual gold medals, but the Italian swimmer got one more point than me so I was runner up female swimmer. Only one other Australian girl got one individual bronze medal."

"The Italian, Spanish and Mexican girls were starting to catch me, but Australia was still the top country. I loved Italy and having fun with my friends."

This year, Phoebe competed in Truro, in Nova Scotia, Canada. There were 10 males and 10 females in the Australian Team. She swam eight individual events, winning five gold medals and two bronze medals and set two world records. She won a further two gold, two silver and one bronze medal in the relays. Her parents, brother Ed, his girlfriend and three other family friends also went.

"It was wonderful having everyone there" Phoebe said.

Phoebe now has her sights set on the 2020 World Championships in Turkey.

In the 10 years that Phoebe has been in the Australian Down Syndrome Swimming Team, she has:

- been to six World Championships
- been the top swimmer in the world three times
- been runner-up top swimmer twice
- been female team captain twice
- been in the Australian team leadership group twice
- broken a world record 75 times.

Presently she holds 15 world records - more than anybody else in the world. Quite an achievement! This year she was also a Baton Bearer in the Queens Baton Relay for the Commonwealth Games.



Phoebe and some teammates in Portugal, in 2008

Some of the medals and the album Phoebe brought along!



Some Facts about Down syndrome

- ◇ Down syndrome (Ds) is a genetic condition - it is not an illness or disease.
- ◇ It occurs as a result of an extra chromosome.
- ◇ Our bodies are made up of millions of cells, and in each cell there are 23 pairs of chromosomes or 46 chromosomes in every cell.
- ◇ Down syndrome is caused by the occurrence of an extra chromosome, chromosome 21. (Down syndrome is also known as Trisomy 21)
- ◇ People with Ds therefore have 47 chromosomes instead of 46.
- ◇ This results in a range of physical characteristics, health and developmental indications and some level of intellectual disability.
- ◇ Down syndrome is usually recognisable at birth and confirmed by a blood test.
- ◇ It was named after Dr John Langdon Down who first described it.
- ◇ Although we know how Ds occurs, we do not yet know why it happens.
- ◇ Ds occurs at conception, across all ethnic and social groups and to parents of all ages.
- ◇ It is nobody's fault, there is no cure and it does not go away.
- ◇ It is not a new phenomenon and cases have been recorded through history. Nor is it a particularly rare condition- Ds is the most common chromosome disorder and about one of every 800 babies born worldwide will have Ds, although in Australia this likelihood is lower.
- ◇ In Australia, 95% of pregnancies where the child is known to have Ds are terminated, so there are many more conceived. In Mexico for instance, this figure is only about 25%.
- ◇ This number has not altered significantly through the time that statistics have been recorded.
- ◇ There are 3 forms of Ds:
- ◇ 95% have trisomy 21 where every cell has the extra chromosome.
- ◇ 1-2% have Mosaic Ds- where not every cell has the extra chromosome, and therefore may lead to a milder level of intellectual disability and less obvious physical features.
- ◇ 3-4% have Translocation Ds. This is where extra Chromosome 21 material is attached to a different chromosome. Translocation can be hereditary.
- ◇ You cannot tell what type of Ds someone has by looking at them and it doesn't really matter, but Phoebe has the most common form, Trisomy 21
- ◇ Although the chance of having a baby with Ds increases with maternal age, children with Ds are born to mothers of all ages.
- ◇ Most Ds babies are born to mothers under 35 years of age as this is the group to which the greatest number of babies are born overall.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WDHVC EVENTS

See also -
calendar summary
on back page.

28 OCTOBER - SUNDAY

EARLY RALLY TO LAL LAL MARKET

Meet at Caltex, Bannockburn Roundabout, Midland Hwy at 9.15am.

Contact: Rod Booley 5281 5340 (0417 021 982)

30 OCTOBER - TUESDAY

BACKFIRE FOLDING MORNING 9am Clubrooms

Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938

1 NOVEMBER - THURSDAY

MORNING COFFEE RUN

Meet at clubrooms at 9.45am sharp.

Contact: Rod Booley 5281 5340 (0417 021 982)

4 NOVEMBER - SUNDAY

NAKED RADIATOR RALLY

Get the oldies out of the shed and shuffle off to the Geelong Water front. (All club cars welcome.) Meet at Cunningham Pier at 10.30am. Parking will be on the lawn beside the pier.

Contact: Rod Booley 5281 5340 (0417 021 982)

13 NOVEMBER - TUESDAY

GENERAL MEETING 7.30pm. Clubrooms.

14 NOVEMBER - WEDNESDAY

DINE OUT 6.15pm. Great Western Hotel.

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

Contact Gary McCredden 5275 2544

15 NOVEMBER - THURSDAY

TINKER DAY.

Due to a late cancellation, our destination will be announced at the November meeting.

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

17 NOVEMBER - SATURDAY

CLUB BUS TO BENDIGO SWAP

\$20 Per person. Money to be paid when booking please.

Contact John Bailey, 0413 258 302.

18 NOV - SUNDAY

HOT DOG RALLY TO A MYSTERY LOCATION

Contact Graeme Pretlove, 0417 559 622.

20 NOVEMBER - TUESDAY

COMMITTEE MEETING 7.30pm. Clubrooms.

23 NOVEMBER - FRIDAY

DECEMBER BACKFIRE DEADLINE *(new contact for Dec. edition)*

Contact: acting Editor - Damien (Gus) Giustini 0418 587 415. Email address remains the same.

24 NOVEMBER - SATURDAY

SMELL THE ROSES DAY.

10.30 Start from the clubrooms. We could do a run to Portarlington for a hot drink and a look at all the tourists spending their money. I have been looking at short rides to go on with our motorbike that does not clash with push bike events and I am open to suggestions from you all. Ray van Galen 5278 9368

27 NOVEMBER - TUESDAY

TECH NIGHT .

Come along and join the fun. Ladies and visitors welcome. Craft Night is also on, giving the option of attending either. Be there around 7pm, to set up for a 7.30pm start. You are welcome to stay for a cuppa afterwards, and a plate with food on it would be appreciated.

WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE AND GET A FREE CHOCOLATE FROG!

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.

15 DEC - SATURDAY

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE

This will be held in our Club Room. Pre dinner drinks and nibbles supplied, starting at 6pm. Catered 2 course meal provided, BYO Drinks and glass. Music, Dancing and Entertainment. All still for the same price of \$25 per head. Brendan Scott is the entertainer and the catering is by "The Shed" of Ocean Grove. Tickets will be sold at October Meeting, or contact Rhonda Foran on 0409 841 700 / 5248 2553 or Pam Shea on 0487 696 097.

Quotes About Cars

"With each replacement of parts, a car slowly becomes Chinese."

- Mr. Kuniyasu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See also -
calendar summary
on back page.

WDHVC EVENTS (ctd)

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)

OTHER EVENTS

23 TO 25 NOVEMBER

GEELONG REVIVAL ON THE WATERFRONT.

28 & 29 NOVEMBER

TARGA FLORIO GEELONG.

2 DEC - SUNDAY

VICTORIAN PENNY FARTHING AND CLASSIC BICYCLE SHOW 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.

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.

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

GEELONG CYCLING CLUB - est. 1911
Proudly Presenting

The Victorian Penny Farthing Championships & Classic Bicycle Show

Sunday 2nd December 2018
Geelong West Oval & Velodrome
Cnr. Wedgell & Church Streets

Paul Farran 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>

Geelong West Rotary BBQ
Coffee Van... Baked donuts
Smoothies...

WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB
25TH ANNIVERSARY AVOCA
1993 - 2018

All those interested in attending the
26th Avoca Rally
March 8th -11th 2019.

We will meet at 6.30pm on
Wednesday, 7 November for dinner at
Oppy's Bistro, Norlane.

Contact Rod Booley before 1 November.
Ph 5281 5340 or 0417 021 982.

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 and may even have acquired something of a cult reputation."

SUZUKI X90 (1997-99)

Specifications

TOP SPEED: 179KM/H (111MPH)

0-96KM/H (0-60MPH); 10.5 SECS

ENGINE TYPE IN-LINE FOUR

DISPLACEMENT: 1590CC (92CI)

WEIGHT: 981KG (2180LB)

MILEAGE: 9.4L/100KM (30MPG)

SUZUKI X90: THE FIRST TWO-SEATER OFF-ROADER.

The X90 was nothing if not brave – with the global car market forever branching out into more and more unusual niches, Suzuki hit on an unexplored market area all of its own when it introduced its new four-wheel-drive model in 1997. The X90 was the world's first – and only – two-seater sports-car off-roader. Or at least that's what it was meant to be.

In truth, it was nothing more than an old, agricultural and largely unpleasant Vitara, with an underpowered 1.6-litre (92ci) engine and all of the model's practicality removed to scale down the cabin and replace it with a bubble that looked vaguely like an aircraft cockpit. The X90 was neither fast, sporty nor sensible as an off-roader; to put it more bluntly, it was useless.

Why on earth did they bother? If the car had at least looked quite decent, Suzuki might have got away with introducing it purely for its novelty value. But in reality, the X90 was a horrid-looking thing with absolutely no styling harmony, and nobody ever really got the point of it.

Was it a 4x4, or a sports coupe? While the roof suggested the latter, the rest of the X90's styling pointed firmly to the car's Suzuki Vitara origins.

Because of the agricultural origins, the X90 failed to deliver any kind of dynamic thrills. It also had dire ride comfort, with the suspension thumping and crashing over uneven surfaces.

With the roof down, the X90 offered wind-in-the-hair motoring. And the embarrassment of being seen driving it in public.

American-spec models looked even worse, because safety laws meant they had to get fatter front bumpers and side marker lights, which only served to draw more attention to the ridiculous shape. Power came from a standard Vitara engine, meaning it wasn't especially quick, nor was it refined or economical. Few buyers were impressed, and the X90 was a giant flop.

- Graham Pretlove



RALLIES & RUNS

TinkerDay 18 October

We went to Karl and Pauline's place in the bush to see his collection. The first item was a fully restored very old Chevrolet truck. It was used in a movie as a circus truck with a wooden covered van. He still has van parts stored in a shed.

Next was a small three-wheel vehicle for transporting goods. It was not made in Asia but came from the USA. It is fully restored but cannot be road registered as the glass windscreen was broken and a replacement could not be found. It has a Perspex windscreen, which is not allowed.

Another shed had a petrol-driven road roller. The engine is missing at present as it is being repaired.

Karl's sheds are full of a collection of lots of different things. He started collecting jerry cans after the article in the *Backfire* some time ago. He even has one with German writing on it. Other collections include kerosene lights, both hurricane and pressure lights. There were a lot of old tins and other bit and pieces.

The Chevrolet truck and a member's Chevrolet car had vacuum fuel pumps. A pipe runs from the inlet manifold to a canister with the workings inside. Some means need to be provided to prime the pump if it has not been used for a long time. The car had an electric fuel pump hidden near the fuel tank for this. I have heard of vacuum wipers but not the fuel pump.

Pauline made pancakes with jam and cream. They were very nice thank you. The rain held off and we ate lunch in a beautiful bush setting. Thanks to Karl and Pauline for seeing their treasures.

Technical Night October 2018

The night was on car cooling systems. Old water pumps had lots of problems before the days of modern pump seals. They had packing 'rope' which was graphite impregnated but it only lasted about a year. This was replaced with silicon-impregnated rope, bought from a water pump repairer/shop. The other problem arose when the seal at the drive end of the pump failed. This caused the mild steel shaft running in a brass bush bearing to run in water, which caused the shaft to rust. The shaft was replaced with stainless steel. Both these improvements have extended the pump life.

Another member had fitted a swimming pool pump seal in place of the packing seal, which was hidden behind a casting.

Next was a tube radiator. It was made from lots of brass tubes with the ends expanded. The tubes

were packed together and dip soldered together. The expanded tube end formed the space inside for water to flow through the radiator.

Modern aluminium cross flow radiators replaced the top to bottom flow radiator when the bonnet height of modern cars became lower. They consist of an aluminium core with plastic ends instead of copper and brass, a cheaper material! They need to have an even flow of air without brackets blocking it etc. as they can have thermal stress if the temperature difference is too great, leading to failure.

The copper fins between the radiator tubes are very thin and they corrode when insects get into them. When they changed to cheaper aluminium, they could put more metal in but they were still thin and still corroded quickly. Also, the fins are easily damaged. The radiator does not last the life of the car and is now a throw away item. There are now only two places left in Geelong that clean out and re-core radiators. However, it is not cheap. I had my Hillman Imp radiator re-cored.

Another problem with radiators is electrolysis corrosion when electricity flowing where it should not. This happened to an Australian car with an aluminium radiator.

An electric cooling fan is common now as they allow the engine to warm up quicker, save power when travelling fast and give extra cooling when stuck in a traffic jam.

An infrared thermometer can be used to locate hot spots in 6 cylinder heads as number 6 usually runs hot. In the design extra water needs to be diverted to the end with various size holes in the head gasket etc. An infrared thermometer has a laser beam for sighting and it measures the heat radiating off the surface. They can be cheaply purchased off the internet. They can be used for other overheating problems like bearings and electrical connections etc. Infrared thermometers are much cheaper than an infrared camera.



A member showed us a pressure tester for radiators and caps. It consisted of an air pump and a pressure gauge and fitting for the cap and hoses. Pressure caps can also be tested to their rated pressure and extra pressure is added to make sure they release.

Robyn had three vintage bikes with suspensions as this was before tubes and tyres. Thanks to all that helped to make the night a success.

- Lindsay Alford

RALLIES & RUNS

President's Day in Pictures

The weather was kind to the 40 plus people who attended this year's President's Day at Shea's property. Unlike the bitterly cold experience of last year, we actually had to seek the shade at times. Nor did we mind the brisk breeze - because it was WARM!

After the customary initial shyness, competitors were soon lining up to try their skills in the various driving challenges—with a plentiful supply of advice (whether asked for or not) forthcoming from navigators/passengers, the opposing team, officials and spectators. Our ever reliable little vehicles even raised dust as they careered up and down between the witches hats. Great to see participants of all ages and both sexes taking a turn at the wheel.

Of special note was the sterling job done by Jack Thomas in his immaculate Model T and top-hatted Ivan Cave in his smooth, sibilant steamer (look that one up in your Macquaries). A seemingly endless stream of passengers lined up for a magical trundle down the gravel drive.

Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you to our generous hosts for making the property available and Presidents past and present (and their helpers) for organising the day.

- Ed.



RALLIES & RUNS

Costa House display

On behalf of the members who drove to Costa House Lara on Thursday 11 October, we would like to thank Rod for organizing this lovely day.

The looks on the faces of the senior residents when they saw the cars, and were able to chat with their owners was incredible. They talked of the good old days and what they drove years ago.



We enjoyed the animal farm nursery from Waurn Ponds just as much as they did and then welcomed a hot cuppa and freshly made scones for afternoon tea.

Thanks again Rod.

- Marg Hose.

September Technical Night

The night was on car accessories. We began with a member who had a replica cast in brass from the original die cast one. Another member had mascots with an interesting story. Next was a confession on how not to install a radio. The good news was he got it right in the end.

For the old timers the Adams cars (UK 1912) had an historic air jack. The car also had an air starter using an air tank and compressor. Still on the old timers with wooden spoke wheels was a clip on spare tyre wheel. In those days the wheels did not come off the car like modern cars and the tyre and tube had to be removed and fitted with the wheel attached to the car. The clip on spare wheel was a solution to get to a repair shop. (The Adams car was featured in *Backfire* December 2017 page 6.)

Our Volvo member spoke about a baby seat which faced backwards, but was not approved for use in Australia at the time. Volvo had a fuel container that fitted into the spare tyre wheel well, gloves for changing tyres.

Our member made and marketed a roof boot (which was in the Technical Night report in the *Backfire* December 2017 page 13).

I had a Mrs TomTom and she tells me where to go. She is very patient and does not get cross if ignore her. I also had a homemade capacitor discharge ignition soldered together in the 1970's, a fore runner to the modern electronic ignition in today's cars.

We had a collection of old and new accessories for motor vehicles. Thanks to all those who brought in them and the interesting stories.

- Lindsay Alford.

October Smell The Roses

Three of us met up at the club and would meet the fourth member at Torquay. We meandered along the Horseshoe Bend Road towards Torquay for a coffee at Bar 61 above Quicksilver. After coffee, we decided to just go to Alan Howlett's workshop to see what he is working on at the moment. Manuel Vella was not sure if his Indian was getting a full one amp charge to his battery, so that was looked at as well. In all it was very interesting for our first ride of the good season but sadly lacking in numbers.

Participants were:

- ◇ Ray van Galen on a Matchless.
- ◇ Manuel Valla on his 1942 Indian.
- ◇ Tim Booley on his 250 V twin.
- ◇ Alan Howlett on his Velocette.

- Ray van Galen.



More President's Day Photos



Great Mars Bar Competition

The November Competition



What a great looking crew!

The question was, "Who broke the kitchen window with the footy?" and the answers were slow in coming.

The young man that we want to identify in this line-up of suspects is in the centre of the photo.

More photos needed

Please sneak in your photo submissions to:

Ray van Galen
Ph 52789 368,
or
email rbvangalen@gmail.com



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?

Bernie

Where were you born?

Geelong

Family?

Wife Glenys (dec) 4 children-2 boys & 2 girls, 8 grandchildren & 1 great grandchild

Number of years in the WDHVC?

On & off for 6 years

Other interests?

Motorbikes

What was your first vehicle?

1934 Morris 8 Tourer

What vehicle would you love to own?

LTD Silver Monarch

What vehicles do you have now?

1961 Morris Minor

Profession?

Carpet Layer, then truck driver

Skills?

People person & motorbikes

What bugs you the most?

Negative people

What makes you happy?

Being with happy people.

- Libby

FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale

1972 Triumph TR6 FI model convertible sports car. 2.5ltr (2498 cc) 6 cyl, 4 speed. Totally restored by the Healey Factory. Maserati green with biscuit Connally leather interior & wooden dash. Mechanically sound. Triple Weber carbs. 91,016 genuine miles (only 4,500kms on 185/80R15 tyres and 72 spoke chrome wheels since restoration). Reg'd to 18 Oct 2019 and RACV insured. Rego – 16045 H. \$44,500 ONO. Call David Koch – 0418 723 031 **11/18**



1962 manual Valiant "S" series. V G original condition. 69,074 genuine miles. Original beige paint with red interior in near new condition. Original floor & boot mats, door panels, head lining etc. Purchase history from Collins Motors, Melbourne with original garage transfers maintained. Mechanically sound with recent work completed. Registered to 19 Oct 2019 and RACV insured. Drives and rides most comfortably. Rego 85400 H. \$19,500 ONO. Call David Koch – 0418 723 031. **11/18**



FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale

1954 Willys Aero 4 door, 6 cylinder, over-drive manual. Made in Toledo Ohio. RHD. Gun metal grey. Good rally car. Red plates 03614-H. \$19,500. Call Colin 5248 4417. **10/18**

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. **10/18**

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

Fishing reel collection: 50 years' worth. From \$30.

NOS piston rings, perfect circle, Valiant +020-040. \$20 per set.

Cast iron transmission, Torque flite \$1000. Poly V8 318, 1965. Was running. \$1000. Older 318 for reco. \$500. Differential back end '59 Plymouth Dodge \$300.

Water cooled manifold for Volvo Penta AG 170 6 cyl motor after market \$750. Chrysler radiators, alternators, starter motors - from \$30.

Call Hank 0407 507 002.

9/18

Clues

Wrecking: Falcon ED 1994. All parts in good order. Cheap. Call Max 0439 688 990 **10/18**

Wanted

Starter motor for a TC or TD Gemini 1600.

Call Dallas 0432 172 171.

9/18

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.

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BACKFIRE



1973 Maico dirt bike

November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Lal Lal Market	29	30 Backfire folding morning 9am Clubrooms	31 October	1 Morning Coffee Run Clubrooms 9.45am	2	3
4 Naked Radiator Rally 10am Waterfront	5	6	3	4	5	6
7	8	13 General Meeting 7.30pm Clubrooms	14 Dine Out 6.15pm Great Western Hotel	15 Tinker Day Details TBC at meeting	16	17 Bendigo Swap
18 Hot Dog Rally	19	20 Committee Meeting	21	22	23 December 2018 Backfire Deadline Geelong Revival - Waterfront	24 Smell the Roses 10.30am Club-vrooms! Waterfront
25 Geelong Revival - Waterfront	26	27 Craft/Tech Night 7pm Clubrooms	28 Targa Florio	29 Geelong	30	1 December
2 Penny Farthing Bike Show 2018 C&Hps	3	4	5	6 Morning Coffee Run Clubrooms 9.45am	7	9 Geelong Waterfront car display