

BACKFIRE

Volume 57 No 6 October 2023

PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219

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



Vespa

Vespa

Biscuter

Perfect

Hispano Suiza

Lark

*Karmann
Ghia*

Mercedes

Alpine

Anglia

Mini

Lauretta

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



www.wdhvcgeelong.com



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



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The President's

Idle Chatter

Hi All,

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the warmer weather.

Good news about the not working clubroom heater that I mentioned last month. Thanks to Jon Breedveld who arranged repairs (and Pam Shea, who was there to see the job completed while Jon was on the LDR) it is now working.

We had a wonderful visit to Beeac recently. Not only did we enjoy the social gathering and great meal but the viewing of Ean's cars in the showroom was made memorable with his story and history of each vehicle. It added hugely to the special vehicles present to hear about why he was interested in that particular vehicle, and their individual story. A privilege to be there to share the experience.

We also a great talk from Lana Purcell from Feed Me Bellarine. Her personal story and to hear what they have achieved was remarkable. I think it was a real eye opener for most of the members present especially the demand and growth they have been experiencing. They always have a need for volunteers and John Bailey will have more details for any members that may be able to assist.

Our long distance rally organiser Sharyn Harris has announced she is retiring from the role after 16 years. See the report on this year's rally included in this Backfire. She has done an amazing job over the years with varying locations and finding some really interesting places to visit on the way.

Well done to Sharyn (and her assistant Fred). We are now looking for someone to take over to be our new long distance coordinator so if you are interested please let someone on the committee know.

The October coffee run will be something a little different this month. Frank McKenzie has kindly offered to host at his property with his daughter Sonya's support and the club will be providing coffee/tea and something to nibble. Bring along a mug and chair. It's a great spot to sit outside or for a walk around the bush and for those interested there will also be snags on the BBQ provided for some lunch.

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

David Mitchell



"There are over two miles of monorail track in the Ford factory."

Postcards showing the Ford plant in 1917.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No 627 OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.
HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON TUESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2023**

PRESIDING

President David Mitchell welcomed the 75 members and visitors (Max and Robert) for attending.

APOLOGIES

Libby Booley, Fred Dosser, David Manks, Jennie Green, Tim Paech, Brian Edwards, Jon Breedveld, Courtney Field, Graham Baldock, Alex McLaws, Jack Harman, Geoff Lenton, Tiny Stonehouse, Rod & Lorraine Roach, Barb Healy, David Perkins, Lyn Jordan and Rhonda Alexander.

Moved: Jim Coates

Seconded: Ken Batson Carried

SICK LIST

Courtney Field, Merv Baum, Clyde Shaw and Netta Warren

MINUTES

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

Moved: Ray van Galen

Seconded: Rod Booley Carried

CORRESPONDENCE (Fred)

INWARD

Letters In

- Bendigo Bank - informing our club that there will be no cheque books after 2030

OUTWARD

Letters Out

Sympathy Card - Bernie Turner on the passing of his brother

Get Well Cards - Netta Warren
Tim Christie
Merv Baum

Thinking of You - Courtney Field

Emails In

- Tim Christie thanking the club for our get well card on his recent illness
- Federation - Mortlake Picnic on March 24th 2024
- VicRoads informing our members that a processing error of approx 2000 club permit renewals were sent out without log books. It is in the process of sending them out.
- Federation- still need volunteers at the Bendigo Swap
- Geelong Art Society - requiring 5 tables and 14 chairs for the use at the art display in our clubrooms at Geelong Show time.

Emails Out

Nil

Moved: Ken Parry

Seconded: Gary Mellington Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT (Maurice)

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

Moved: Maurice Healy

Seconded: Ray Matthews Carried

PROGRAM DIRECTOR (John)

This month's quest speaker was Lorna Purcell from Feed Me. Lorna spoke on the incredible growth in the organisation from its small beginnings to its current coverage of the wider Geelong region. Her work highlights the spread of need across apparently, comfortable suburbs, where many people struggle to make ends meet each week. More volunteers welcome!

LIBRARY (Phil)

No report this month.

DINE OUT (Sharyn)

RSL this month.

EDITOR (Jon away)

No report this month.

WEBSITE (Damien)

No report this month.

FEDERATION REPORT (David P)

Most recent meeting already reported in Backfire.

COMMITTEE REPORT (Tony)

Bendigo bus discussed and endorsed. Keys located and now available for the Clubroom's disabled toilet.

MERCHANDISE (David M)

Club-branded wide brim hats available for purchase and collection.

TINKER DAY (Dallas)

This month's Tinker Day will be a tour of a local motor bike collection. Next month will be at a Werribee workshop.

MARS BAR AWARD (Ray)

No competition this month

VEHICLE PERMITS (Fred for Gus)

Seven permits have expired. A 1937 Buick Speedster and a 1903 Humberette have recently been issued permits.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd

John Bailey had his 1981 Morgan Plus 4 on display. John has restored the car from an insurance write-off. A beautifully presented car and a credit to his skills and dedication.

RALLY REPORTS/EVENTS (Ken)

See the Backfire for details on coming events

Events attended by members include:

- The Coffee Run to the Eastern Hub was well attended with 18 members.
- Once again the Long Distance Rally was a great success. A full report will be in the *Backfire*. President David formally thanked Sharyn for another excellent Rally, her 16th and last.
- The local MG collection tour was well attended. It is a very impressive collection of cars covering many years of the marque's history.
- Thirty five members went on the Pub Run to Beeac where they saw many of the owner's cars and his house renovation.
- The Bellarine Machinery Display was very impressive and recommended to members.

LONG DISTANCE RALLY (Sharyn)

See update in the Events section above.

TECH NIGHT (Peter)

This month will cover "*Windscreen wipers*".

October will focus on "*Differentials*".

KITCHEN (Pam)

No report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Bernie thanked the Club for its sympathy on the recent passing of his brother.

FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

Dallas has got his Purvis Eureka home. He has also brought a damaged VW from the widow of a Club member.

Meeting closed. 8.55pm.

Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 10 October 2023 in the clubrooms.

- Leigh Dwyer

John Bailey's Morgan in January 2020, soon after restoration.



Tech Night 22 August "Horns"

Horns work by vibrating a metal diaphragm. Early horns used a tooth wheel to cause the vibration. (Pictures 1, 2 & 3).



According to Wikipedia, Klaxon was originally a brand name. Klaxon horns have a characteristic sound. It has lost its trademark status and now applies to all horns of this style. Later horns used electromagnets to vibrate the diaphragm. The electromagnet pulls in the diaphragm causing an electrical switch to break. Adjustment can vary the sound frequency. Picture 4 shows a Packard horn of this type.

A bubble horn operates by squeezing the bulb which forces air through a steel reed located in the throat of the horn, making it vibrate, producing a single note. The flaring horn matches the acoustic frequency of the reed in the open air, radiating the sound waves efficiently, making the sound louder. They are used on bikes, motor bikes and cars (sorry no picture).

An air horn consists of a trumpet containing a metal reed or diaphragm. Compressed air causes it to vibrate. The trumpet is at the natural frequency of the sound produced, making it louder. The air is supplied from an electric compressor or from the truck air brakes. Picture 6 shows an air horn needing restoration. It originally had three trumpets.



Ctd Page 15

RALLIES & RUNS

“Religion, Gin, Fish & Horses”

The 10 couples who took part in the final long distance rally to be organised by Sharyn & Fred enjoyed a week of good company, too much food and some fascinating and educational visits. The weather was just about perfect and the cars behaved (mostly). This year five of the women were “volunteered” into writing up a day of the trip each. We thank them for their reports.

- Ed



The group at the gates to the Deniliquin Ute Muster g

Day One – Friday 1 September

We left Anakie at 8.30 in the morning and travelled through Daylesford on to Guildford for morning tea. Here we saw a very big red gum tree of between 500 and 1000 years old. Then it was on to Castlemaine where we stopped at Up the Creek workshop, where we saw very old vintage and sports cars being rebuilt at a very large cost. They made a lot of parts in-house. We had an



interesting talk about all the parts they use. Lunch was at the botanic gardens in Castlemaine. Then we travelled to the Great Stupa

which had a very big Buddhist temple. Very interesting. The facility caters for all religions. We had two very good guides. Then we travelled through the township of Morong and on to Bendigo to our motel. We had happy hour then went for tea at the Bridge Hotel – very good.

- Jenny



Day 2 – Saturday 2 September

Day two saw everyone up early and eager to see what the day’s adventures would bring. Our little pocket rocket Miriam had already been for her customary walk around the beautiful Lake Weeroona.

We left the Motel around 10 o’clock, travelling to Colbinabbin, where we had morning tea while viewing the wonderful silo art. This artwork on five silos was amazing.

While travelling towards Echuca, the countryside was ablaze with the canola in full bloom.



On reaching Echuca we found a spot in the park by the river for lunch, however, a few took the scenic drive by mistake. After settling into our motel, some of the crew visited Brad Harris’ shed he is in the process of building for his business. And a huge shed it is.

In the meantime, some others went out to The Great Aussie Beer Shed. This tour takes you right back down memory lane with an unbelievable display of Aussie iconic paraphernalia. The unique attraction features over 20,000 beer cans from Australia and around the world. Well worth a look. The day concluded with drinks, chatter, and a BBQ down by the Murray River at Brad Harris’ property.

RALLIES & RUNS

“Religion, Gin, Fish & Horses”



One of the “beer can walls” at the Great Aussie Beer Shed



Thanks to the ladies for making the salads and Chef Fred for looking after the BBQ, although he might have let a hamburger slip into the fire. Also, a special mention to James Harris for keeping wood on the fire. We had a very lovely evening enjoying the ambience of the fire and river with perfect weather conditions.

Lyn

Day Three – Sunday 3 September

The leader of the pack was the last to arrive at our destination (Narrandera) after his car decided to overheat.

One lady unashamedly was keen to room swap.

There was some discussion as to who would be the first in the pool. A dare was directed at the most prim and proper lady to swim in her unmentionables at midnight. The dare was politely refused but one wonders how she knew the gates were locked the following morning. No witnesses to prove or disprove if she did in fact take up the dare.

(We had a great time away, good company and plenty of interesting things to see.)

Trish

Day Four – Monday 4 September

It was a lovely weather day that brought a lot of day of interesting information and fun, starting with the 9:45am muster.

Sharon and Fred led the adventure, starting off at Southern Cotton for a gin tour. Unfortunately this was not an early drinking session - that we learned from our guide, Monique. She did teach us that cotton ginning is the process of removing gin trash, which includes stems, burrs, soils and other debris, from the cotton balls and then separating out cotton fibres from the seeds.

The tour covered other aspects of growing cotton such as the water usage, the machinery that was used for the process, and the end products of cotton from clothes to cotton seed oil used in margarine.

The next destination was the Whitton Malt House where we had lunch and this location delivered on the alcohol expectation. This was an oasis in the middle of nowhere which has ponds, waterfalls, iron sculptures, and a golf driving range where you could spend hours.

The last stop was the Rocking Horse Retro which is a rocking horse restoration museum, owned and run by Libby Bailey. It contained the most amazing collection of rocking horses and memorabilia. We had a lovely homemade afternoon tea which ended the wonderful experience.

Miriam



Day 3 included a stop at The Depot in Deniliquin, an immaculately presented motoring display.

Other Events

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

Oct 15 2023	Albury Swap Meet	Twin City Swap meet & S & S, Albury Showground
Oct 21/22 2023	Campbells Creek Antique Fair	Campbells Creek Rec Reserve, Friars Rd.
Oct 22 2023	Colac Swap Meet	Colac racecourse (new venue) Contact 0428 394 249 gandproseevents.com
Oct 29 2023	HTPAA Antique Hand Tool Market	St. Anthony's School Hall, 164 Neerim Rd, Cnr Neerim & Grange Rds, Caulfield East
Nov 11 & 12	Bendigo National Swap Meet. Entry: Sat only \$15. Sun only \$5. Children 15 and under free. Public: Gates open Sat 6 AM. Sun 7 AM. Sheds open 7 AM. Details www.bendigowap.com.au . Site bookings 0427 446 660. General enquiries 0434 730 822. info@bendigowap.com.au	
Nov 18-19 2023	Daylesford Collectables fair	Daylesford Town Hall
Nov 26 2023	Maldon Swap Meet	Maldon Racecourse Reserve (Vic)
Dec 3 2023	Llanely Motorbike Swap	Motorcycle only swap meet, Llanely public hall (near Bendigo)
Jan 14 2024	Lang Lang Swap meet TBC	Lang Lang Showgrounds
Jan 21 2024	Centre State Swap Meet	Bendigo Racecourse
Jan 28 2024	Wonthaggi Swap Meet	Wonthaggi Rec Reserve

Antique Fair
Fryers Rd.
Campbells Ck.
October Sat 21 & Sun 22
WE DO NOT STOP FOR RAIN
GATES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT 8AM
BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED
 Friday setup, and free camping
STALLS SIZE 10x6 metres
 Admission \$5 Kids free
 Campbells Ck. Rec Reserve
 Fryers Rd. Campbells Ck.
 All enquiries please **TEXT** Mark
 Mobile 0414 244 842 **TEXT** is preferred

COLAC SWAP MEET
Sunday October 22, 2023
Colac Racecourse



Sellers @ \$25 from 6.30am
Public entry - 8am-1pm - \$5
 Enquiries: Graham Rose 0428 394 249


Bendigo National Swap Meet

Featuring:
 • 4 Wheel Drive Display
 • Barn Finds & Survivor Car Display
 • Die-cast Models & Toys
 • Over 1700 Sites

11th & 12th November 2023



Entry Prices
 Saturday Only \$15
 Sunday Only \$5
 Children 15 and under Free
(if accompanied by an adult)

Gates Open to the Public
 Saturday 6am
 Sunday 7am
 Sheds Open 7am



www.bendigowap.com.au
 Site Bookings 0427 446 660
 General Enquiries 0434 730 822
info@bendigowap.com.au



SWAP MEET
Maldon Vic.
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26
WE DO NOT STOP FOR RAIN
GATES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT 7AM
 No bookings required
 Saturday setup
STALLS \$25 per 6x6 metre site
 Admission \$5 Kids free
Maldon Racecourse Reserve
Cnr Bendigo Rd. & Lewis Rd. Maldon
 All enquiries please **TEXT** Mark
 Mobile 0414 244 842 **TEXT** is preferred

Events Calendar

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

Thursday 5 Oct **Coffee Run to the residence of a Club Legend Frank McKenzie.** Meet at Frank's house at 755 Great Ocean Rd Bellbrae. On the left hand side of the road [Coming from Geelong] the letterbox has a Riley on top!!!! About 2 kms past the Bellbrae roundabout. Follow the driveway down about 250 metres **OR** those coming from Geelong can meet at the Clubrooms, ready to leave at 9 45 am. The Club will supply coffee/hot chocolate makers with pods and milk. Salad, sausages, bread and sauce available for a BBQ lunch (maybe cooked on a fire). [bring marshmallows if you want or chocolate and bananas wrapped in foil etc]. We will provide cakes on the day. Come and sit around the fire and chat about stuff!!! Don't forget a chair and some sunscreen or wear your new Club sun hat!!! We need numbers to assist with catering. Please contact me. *Contact: Col 0425 822 026*

Tuesday 10 October **General Meeting** 7.30pm in Clubrooms.

Wednesday 11 October **Dine Out at Waurm Ponds Hotel** from 6pm.
Contact: Sharyn 0417 546 089

Thursday 12 October **Committee Meeting** 7.30pm in clubrooms.
(date changed for Geelong Show, on 19-22 Oct)

Thursday 19 October **Tinker Day** Visit to a factory in Derrimut that does brake & clutch restoration work for old vehicles. We will meet at the Little River BP Truck Stop on the highway at 9.45am for a 10.15 departure. We will be expected at 11. After our visit, I will try find a park we can go to for lunch, so make sure you bring what you need. If anyone knows of a nice spot in the area, please let me know. *Contact Dallas 0432 172 171*

Monday 23 October **Nov. Backfire Deadline** 5pm. **Contact: Jon B 0417 311 441**

Tuesday 24 October **Tech Night "Diffs"** High ratio. Low ratio. What's the difference, you might say. Well don't spin out and get your crown wheel over-revving: take some power from your drive shaft and transfer it to your wheels so you can come along and find out. All welcome. Wear your name badge and get a FREE CHOCOLATE FROG! Be there at 7pm, so we can set up for a 7.30pm start. *Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938.*

Friday 27 October **Backfire folding morning** 9am Clubrooms.
Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938

Sunday 29 October **Club Run** Back to Stieglitz is our next run. We have been invited to display our special cars on the day from 10am to 2pm. We are advised to bring a picnic lunch. There will be people there to explain the history of Stieglitz and its buildings, which will be open. Numbers needed for parking purposes. Meet on Cox Rd Norlane, just before the power substation and leave at 9.15am sharp.

Just a footnote for members who have older cars but find it too far to drive them on some of our runs. If it helps, I have a trailer to lend if suitable for your car. It would be nice to see some older cars out on runs. Call me if you'd like to borrow it *Contact Ken 0437 254 351*

Tuesday 2 November **Coffee Run** We will venture out to the corner of Bellarine Highway and Melaleuca Rd Leopold. There is a bakery with cakes and coffee on the opposite corner and plenty of parking as well. See you there from 10am for a chat, a brew and a chew. If the weather is inclement the option is the rotunda or the Bakery for cover. Cheers from the Coffee Co-ordinator. *Contact: Col 0425 822 026.*

Saturday 11 November **Bendigo Swap** Bus from clubrooms - TBC.
Numbers collected at Oct meeting.

Thursday 16 November **Tinker Day.** Visit to a car collection in Wallington. Those in town to meet at clubrooms at 10am for a 10.15 departure. Members on the Bellarine might like to meet on Swan Bay Rd. outside Adventure Park. We will gather there for a few minutes before heading off to our destination. Contact: Dallas 0432 172 171

Sunday 26 November. **Geelong Revival Club Display.** We have 10 spots to display cars. To book your spot call Simon 0414 482 241

The Way It Was

(taken from the 21st anniversary Backfire - March 1988)

"For the record, we are pleased to announce that in the past five weeks the skeletal remains of three once proud and noble vehicles have found their way to Simsmetal, prior to the journey to their final resting place in the Land of the Rising Sun L M Fletcher - December 1974

RALLIES & RUNS

"Religion, Gin, Fish and Horses" (ctd from Page 7)



Day Five – Tuesday 5 September

The fifth day began with a wander through a local museum. Then we visited an aboriginal artist and boomerang maker. But that was not all – with a heap of school kids looking on – he showed us a turtle nest with eggs well above the high water mark. And then (you should have been there) he cut open a log and picked out a witchy grub bigger than his palm, and gradually ate the wrinkling critter. I cannot describe it!!

We tried saltbush and were shown original weapons and tools. His freezer had kangaroo tails and goannas, which he eats. We were just as enthralled as the kids.



We then visited the freshwater native fish hatchery. The 1.2 m long Murray Cod nearly broke the glass to get at Lyn's finger. With 2000 teeth it would have been a mess, but in the wild they love cheese! We all learnt much today, even Ray!

Judith



Day Six Wednesday 6 September

A brisk walk by Jenny and myself to our friendly ladies at the Narrandera Bakery for our tailored salad rolls saw us back in time, just, for a morning briefing. Start your engines. The convoy set out for Lockhart. What an amazing display of metal artwork, scattered throughout a nature reserve. The mind - how it can be manipulated. An old saw blade becomes a feather, corrugated iron horse's flanks, bolts eyes, spanners nostrils. Scrap metal certainly took on a new dimension. Truly inspirational.

On to Urana with a picnic lunch by the lake, a wander over to the big aviary. I noticed how, except for the first station, we avoided the other adult gym equipment scattered on the circuit. Back in the vehicles to the big engine and you will not need to guess as to who was first out, as she sprinted to the engine. I meandered across but as I had no knowledgeable questions or observations to make except "– yes that is a big engine", I retreated back to the Merc to view the big spider.

It seems that our inspiration at the use of scrap metal had faded, as few of us gave the trailer packed ready for the swap meet at Christie's Museum a second glance.



We then moved on to the Tocumwal Air Museum for a rejuvenating hot chocolate/coffee and snack before our guided tour. It was difficult not to become interested as the passion and knowledge of our guide shone through, explaining the aircraft and adding those little personal stories. We were then ushered into a theatre to continue our learning on the role and impact of the Tocumwal Airbase had in the Second World War and the local inhabitants. How ignorant was I!

A brief tour of the town found us at our accommodation for the night, a motel close to the golf course. Sharyn, with her usual organising flair, booked us into the restaurant. "18 tonight - no problems: we can do that and we will send the bus to collect you all." Two, actually three trips later, we were there and brought back again. Oh so efficient!

RALLIES & RUNS

"Religion, Gin, Fish and Horses"



We retired for the night inspired, re-educated and replenished to prepare for our shared hot breakfast in the camp kitchen. As if you needed more food.

Glenda

Participants: Sharyn & Fred Harris; Trish & Mick Ormrod; Judith and Ray Matthew; Lynn & Col Jordan; Miriam & Tony Brincat; Glenda & Jon Breedveld; Barb & Ray van Galen; Lil & Manny Vella; Jenny & Ken Parry; Margaret & Dick Safstrom.



At the hot breakfast on the final morning, before setting off for Shepparton and home, the group made a little presentation to Sharyn & Fred to recognise their organising efforts for this and all their other long distance rallies.

Well done Sharyn & Fred!

Coffee Run to Eastern Hub

On Thursday 7 September 18 members gathered at the Eastern Hub Cafe located in Myers St Opposite the Eastern Cemetery. This place turned out to be a lovely space to enjoy a coffee and a chat, with interesting architecture and pieces of art adorning the walls.

The coffee was very good and the nibbles selection had something for everyone. After considerable tongue wagging by all we discovered it was nearly lunch time, so eight or nine of us stayed on and had a light lunch. This is a very good venue, so if you're out that way drop in and sample their wares.

All in all another successful foodie event done and dusted. Thanks Colin for organising this run.

Rod Booley

Letter to the Editor

I recently read in a magazine put out by the Riley Club in Queensland of a modern version of the old bellows type thermostat which were prone to failure and when did so failed in the shut position, naturally enough causing overheating.

In principle when the engine is cold and the thermostat is shut, the bypass hole is open allowing the coolant to circulate through the head and not the radiator. When the engine warms up the bellows move downwards to block the bypass off and allow the coolant to flow through the radiator. All very good in principle but modern wax thermostats, though more reliable, work in the opposite direction, allowing coolant to continually flow through the head and not the radiator. The cure for that is to block the bypass off but then the motor takes forever to warm up and that's when most of the wear takes place. So back to the Queensland article.

Someone up there found out that early Landrovers are fitted with a modern wax thermostat that works in the correct direction. With a bit of fiddling and fettling I adapted one purchased from eBay to fit, and the end result is perfect. The engine warms up quickly and the temp gauge sits bang on the opening setting of 74° C.

Happy motoring!!

Geoff Lenton



Cold thermostat showing the bypass part fully open. As the thermostat opens the shutter will begin to obscure the bypass port. When the thermostat is fully open the bypass is closed.

For the full story click the July tab at [Riley Club of Queensland magazine - Riley Motor Club of Queensland \(rileymotorclubqld.org.au\) .](http://Riley Club of Queensland magazine - Riley Motor Club of Queensland (rileymotorclubqld.org.au) .)
- Ed)

RALLIES & RUNS

September Tinker Day

A cool morning but at least the rain had cleared. Twenty-two members arrived at Newling Reserve in Moriac, We had four motorcycles and a gaggle of Mercs along with others. So after a little chit-chat we set off for a 20km drive to our host Frank's place.

Frank has an amazing collection of unusual motorcycles, as he explained to me, "I don't like having what everybody else has: I like the unusual."

A man after my own heart.

There were some classic bikes that made me drool and then there were the 'unusual' ones. Mopeds, parachute bikes and some that I'd never even heard of that were made in extremely small numbers: two or three only. Some of these thought to be the only ones of their kind in the country.

After milling around checking out the bikes, the chairs and thermoses came out. We sat outside and soaked up the sunshine and continued the friendly chit-chat. A huge thanks to Frank for opening up his collection for us to see and making us feel so welcome.



Dallas



Photos: David M & Dallas



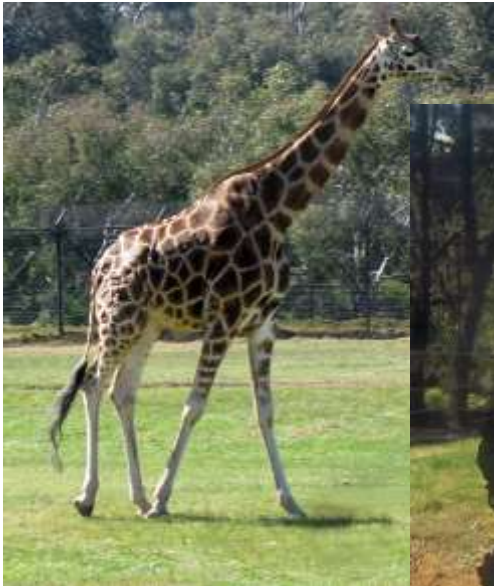
RALLIES & RUNS

Club Run to Werribee Zoo

A perfect spring day awaited the 21 members who made the run out to Werribee Zoo on Sunday 24 September. The early start proved to be a wise choice, as the zoo became very busy as the day wore on. Most of the group managed to fit on to one of the zoo's earlier tour busses, with a few others joining a following vehicle. They were treated to a close but safe encounter with some of the majestic and fascinating animals on display in the open air enclosures. The young lion cubs were a special treat.

While there was food and drink available, many brought their own lunch and were happy to avoid the queues. With a choice of spring sun or a spot in the shade, lunch was a pleasant affair, and after a wander around people made their own way home.

- Ed



Photos: Jenny Parry



RALLIES & RUNS

Club Run to the Farmer's Arms

A pleasant run, some good food and a special car collection were features of the 24 August club run to the Beeac Pub. As usual many starters were already in the Princes Highways layby at Waurm Ponds, enjoying a thermos coffee and a catch up a good 30 minutes before advertised take off time.

The drive up the duplicated highway to the outskirts of Colac was an easy run, safe in the knowledge that faster cars could use the right hand lane to pass our little convoy.



The Farmer's Arms Hotel was ready and waiting for us and had a dinner room set aside. The food was delicious and our hosts, Dorothy and Ean McDowell made us welcome. Before lunch Ean took us out to view his special collection of vehicles in the converted stables behind the pub. Most had a performance pedigree, and Ean was able to tell us a little of the history of each.

During the day some wandered across the road to learn about a surprising collection of windmills, on display in their own little reserve. It was amazing just how many windmill manufacturers there had been, each with their own variation on the basic design, building these essentials of early farming life.



After lunch Ean invited us to come and see their bluestone home on the edge of town. This historic building had been sympathetically restored and modernised to create a very special hideaway in a beautiful setting. Wandering around the house and grounds was a great way to finish our outing, before heading home. - Ed

FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale

For Sale Tandem trailer [car carrier]
professionally built on LT truck tyres 2.0 x 4.30m [6ft 6in x14ft] 2,000kg cap. Ramps and hand op. winch. In very good condition. Always shedded. Replacement cost approx \$6,000. Asking price \$3,400. Call Karl 0413 074 733. **10/23**

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For Sale 1991 Toyota Cressida Grande Reg EMH-478. Excellent condition (deceased estate) Always garaged. No known problems. Starts first turn of key. Regular service by local mechanic. No rust, no accidents. Interior leather good. Only mod is Alpine headset. Never towed: (towbar to protect car rear). Sold as is: reg nearly out (end Sept). No RWC. \$7,500. Was owners pride and joy - a collector's find. Call Merv 0417 878 724. **10/23**



10/23

KEEP IT IN THE CLUB
Got a vehicle for sale?
Please consider advertising it in
Backfire first, to give your fellow
members the first option of buying.

Tech Night - "Horns"

(Ctd from Page 5)

Emergency vehicles sirens have waterproof outdoor speaker and sound generated by oscillators and amplifiers. (right)

Ray has made a number of reproductions of a motor bike horn. Great craftsmanship (below)



Judith was also on theme with shoehorn! She had a collection of souvenir passenger ships shoe horns, a bit like a souvenir teaspoon from yesteryear. Passenger ships were how people travelled before air travel.

- Lindsay

FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale

For Sale One 6.00.16 brand new tyre. \$100. Call Colin 0406 633 283. **9/23**

.....

For Sale 1989 Mercedes 300 E
Reg. 1WS 7ST (expires 20 Sept 23). 6-cyl auto. Approx.360,000 kms. Excellent body. Mechanically VG. Interior needs some work. \$2,500 neg. Call Graeme: 0427 615 242. **8/23**



Clues

Clues: 1988 Ford Falcon Utility. Very tidy and straight in the body and interior. Has been on club permit. Price is by negotiation. For more info call Dallas on 0432 172 171 **10/23**

.....

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

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

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

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

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

It's Your Newsletter, so Keep Contributing!

Don't forget to send me your contributions. Emailed, hand delivered, posted, by SMS or carrier pigeon! Hand written or typed. Don't leave it to the faithful few or your editor. If you are at an event, take a photo on your phone or scribble a few notes. Send them to: Mob. 0417 311 441 or editor@wdhvcgeelong.com

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.

If undeliverable return to:

WDHVC
PO Box 200
Newcomb VIC 3219

Backfire

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October 2023

at a glance (details Page 9)

1956 VW Beetle

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25	26	27	28	29 Backfire Folding Morning	30 Sept
EXTREME WEATHER (including Total Fire Bans) A club event may be cancelled on extreme weather days. If an extreme weather day is predicted members should either: check the club website; check their emails; or contact the event organiser.						
1	2	3	4	5 Coffee Run. 10am Frank McKenzie's or 9.45 Clubrooms	6	7
8	9	10 General Meeting 7.30pm	11 Dine Out Waurm Ponds Hotel	12 Committee Meeting	13	14
15 Albury Swap	16	17	18	19 Tinker Day Meet 9.45am Little River BP truckstop	20	21 21/23 Campbells Creek Antique
				GEELONG SHOW		GEELONG SHOW
22 Colac Swap	23 Backfire Deadline	24 7pm Tech Night "Diffs"	25	26	27 Backfire Folding Morning	28
G'LNG SHOW						
29 Club Run to Stieglitz. 9.15am Cox Rd sub station HTPAA Tool Market	30	31	1 Nov	2 Nov Coffee Run. 10am Bakery cnr B'rine Hwy & Melaleuca Rd Leopold	3	4