

Car on the Cover



Ian Rogers' 1949 Dodge 25cwt truck

MARYBOROUGH DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB Inc.
Reg. No. AOO19397 S

MISSION The aim of the Club is to encourage the preservation, restoration, and use of historic vehicles.

MEETINGS Club meetings are held at 7.30 p.m. second Wednesday of each month at MDHVC Velodrome Clubrooms, off Avoca Road, Maryborough, unless otherwise notified. Outings are held on the last Sunday of the month, as advised in the DIARY section of our newsletter, Auto Torque.

<u>OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2023-2024</u>		
<i>PRESIDENT –</i>	Russell Bell	0428 134 654
<i>VICE-PRESIDENT -</i>	Keith Dodkins (Maria)	0402 334 125
<i>SECRETARY -</i>	Amanda Gardner (Gillian)	5460 4506
<i>TREASURER -</i>	Laurie Cooke	0418 513 229
<i>COMMITTEE -</i>	Helen Kennedy (Ron)	0407 508 523
	Bruce Anderson (Judy)	5461 3874
	Ron Kennedy (Helen)	0408 055 438
	Peter Gray	0418 997 509
	Daryl Barry	0428 604 327
<i>EDITORS -</i>	Ron & Helen Kennedy	0408 055 438
<i>OUTINGS DIRECTOR -</i>	Russell Bell	0428 134 654
<i>CATERING OFFICER- -</i>		
<i>FEDERATION REPS. -</i>	Ron Kennedy (Helen)	0408 055 438
	Russell Bell	0428 134 654
<i>PURCHASING OFFICER</i>	Helen Kennedy	0407 508 523
<i>PUB RUNS –</i>	Russell Bell	0428 134 654
<i>MDHVC ADDRESS - P.O. Box 10 Maryborough Vic 3465</i>		
All Correspondence and Auto-Torque articles to: Club Email: mdhvc2010@gmail.com		
MDHVC is a Member of the Federation of Veteran, Vintage & Classic Vehicle Clubs		

Wanted to buy, swap or sell - cars must have VIN number and price.
 If you want Auto Torque emailed, (only way to **guarantee** you getting A/T before the meeting - please let Secretary know. (Send me an email, then I have your correct email)
DISCLAIMER: any articles published here are at the discretion of the editors, but are by no means their thoughts or those of the club in general. We also reserve the right to edit articles, as we see fit.
 No responsibility for omission or errors.
 Maryborough District Historic Vehicle Club also allows for this Newsletter to be distributed by email to other Clubs' members, but publication on other web sites is not allowed.

President's Prattle (or Rusty's Rant)

First of all, thank you for electing me as your president for the next 12 months. Most of you know me, and for those of you who do not, my name is Russell Bell and I have been a member since 1990 and have held the position of President before – so here I am again. I am 77 years young and hope to stay that way for some time to come.

I, with the help of the committee and other members organise our club outings and events. The outings for this year are in place until Christmas. Next year will start with our annual breakfast run in January. Hopefully the outing we organise will be interesting and more members will come along.

At the moment it seems the world has gone mad and wars in many places are a worry, and the financial situation is affecting us all, but I still feel we live in one of the best places in the world. Let us all embrace our luck and get out and enjoy our cars and the social side a club can bring.

The average age of our members shows we are getting older. Please try to encourage younger people to join with us and show them we still have a lot to offer and that we are happy to embrace their ideas too. We may be oldies, but we are still very welcoming goodies, ready to offer help, experience and friendship.

I will endeavour in future rants to try to write some current and topical stuff, and maybe some stories from past outings.

I look forward to seeing you at meetings and outings. Please make yourself known to me as I don't know all of you. In the interim, stay safe, well and warm.

Rusty B

Editor's note: For the duration of Russell's term as President, this column will become known as 'Rusty's Rant'.

CLUB CALENDAR

September 11th	General meeting 7.30pm
September 29th	Outing to Big Stupa – Bendigo
October 10th	General Meeting 7.30pm
October 27th	Outing to Clydesdale
November 13th	General Meeting 7.30pm
November 30th	Christmas Lunch

SUPPER ROSTER

Fred Seers, Warwick Stagg, David Stewart

duties

Setting out the chairs before meeting and wash/clean up afterwards.

CLUB PERMIT RENEWALS

October 2024 Bruce Anderson, Daryl Barry (2), Graeme Batson, Laurie Cooke, Lindsay Crawford, Robert DaBonde, Tony Evans, Terry Hellyar, Ron Kennedy, Neil Mark, Bill O'Meara, Wayne Ross, Mike Rossi

Car on the cover

In late December 1949 Vern Rogers was a bricklayer building a house in Carisbrook along with his son Ian. Ian looked up and saw this truck in cab/chassis form go past the property towards Maryborough and on to Colman Brothers garage. Colman's were the agents for Dodge vehicles at the time. Ian said "Dad, I think your new truck has arrived" It was 2½ years since Vern had ordered the truck, and it was not until January 1950 that it was ready for delivery. Dick Hibbins built and fitted the tray and it was registered on January 20th with the number TG 180. Ian has purchased this number from VicRoads and has fitted it to his last few everyday cars.

The truck is an American Dodge 25cwt vehicle fitted with a 25hp motor coupled to a 3-speed manual gearbox. It has hydraulic brakes to all wheels, and is fitted with single wheels at the back, and not the optional dual wheel arrangement. The rear hubs as fitted are ready-made to accept the dual wheel set-up. These trucks usually had a more powerful 29hp engine and the same gearbox, but the slightly less powerful 25hp engine as fitted to Dodge cars allowed it to be driven at a better speed.

Vern finished as a brickie in the early 1970's, and Ian continued to use it in the business until the early 1980's when it was retired. Ian kept the truck and it was stored in a shed near his home for many years. During this time, it was vandalised and all windows were broken. When restoration started many years later, sourcing the curved small rear windows proved particularly difficult, but eventually some were found and are now fitted to their proper place.

The mechanical work was undertaken locally, and Ian made the mistake of saying "There's no hurry." During the restoration of the bodywork no such comment was made. The truck has now been finished for about 10 years and Ian says he needs to make better use of it than he currently does.

We all are guilty of this, and we look forward to seeing Ian's Dodge out and about.

Advance Notice - Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch has been organised for this year and is to be held on November 30th. For your attendance, your names must be on the list along with a \$10.00 deposit for each member attending. As catering requirements need to be organised, this deposit will be non-refundable. The cut-off date is November 13th which is our November meeting night.

My friend Harold says... I bought a ladder from Ikea last week – it came with step-by-step instructions.

.Notes from Federation

Fuel and Lubricant Survey The University of Canberra and the Australian Historic Motoring Federation are conducting a survey on current and future use of fossil fuels and lubricants in operating heritage machines. You can participate by completing the survey at <https://uoc.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SVeYdZYPxnUunYd3o> Federation recommends that as many club members as possible complete this survey as it provides information for motoring organisations to use when discussing the future of historic vehicles, machinery, aviation, maritime, engines, and any other old equipment you keep in working order, with governments.

From the Federation meeting held on August 3rd, Russell reported several items of interest. The Club Permit System allows almost unlimited use of our historic vehicles upon the correct entry in our logbook. The 'H' system is for use by historic vehicles used for pleasure and not for competition. Cars which race or rally should not be on H plates, as there is a separate category for these vehicles. Also, there are some changes to use by heavy trucks. Check with VicRoads.

At our winter meetings we have had a tin for donations to Peter Mac hospital for cancer research. This was given to Federation and we have donated \$115.20. A new tin was obtained and will be out at some future events, to raise more funds for cancer research.

Non – club events

<i>September 15th</i>	Grease Monkeys Show 'n' Shine Ararat
<i>September 21 – 22nd</i>	Deniliquin Collectors Club Spring rally
<i>September 22nd</i>	Birchip Swap Meet, Show 'n' shine (\$10.00 entry)
<i>October 13th</i>	Charlton Swap Meet
<i>October 20th</i>	St Arnaud Classic Car Show
<i>October 20th</i>	Invitation to join with Ballarat Club at Mt Franklin
<i>November 3rd</i>	Inglewood Show 'n' Shine

If you know of other events which may be of interest to our members, let me know for inclusion into this section of Auto Torque.

Club Phone

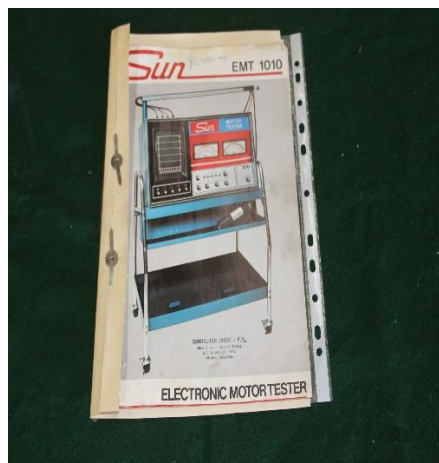
The Club phone was purchased to enable all of us to be kept up to date with outings, changes of dates, times or destinations at short notice. As well it can be used to notify us of special events, invitations and even funerals.

Ron and Helen are in charge of this and request that if you wish to contact us, you do so via our **private numbers** as listed on Page 2. The club phone is set up so that all members are in groups for ease of sending messages, and incoming calls add the caller's number separately to the group which upsets the group settings. The club phone is turned off after all messages have been sent and is not monitored and incoming messages will not be answered.

FOR SALE

Engine tune-up and LPG diagnostic workshop equipment. Both items are believed to be in working order as they were, when an existing mechanics business changed ownership a few years ago. They are suited to the maintenance of older vehicles. They would suit an existing business, or you could have them in your home workshop or man cave.

Both for \$200.00



The spark plug cleaner is not in working order and can only be considered as a display item. \$25.00

Phone Ron 0408 055 438

A Sign of the Times

With the spate of youth crime in Australia at present, particularly car theft, and the reluctance of courts to administer punishment considered due by the majority, the Ferrari F1 team decided to employ young people under the work experience program to give them an opportunity to gain worthwhile employment. Given that many youths can remove the wheels of a car in six seconds without proper equipment, Ferrari employed them in the pits where seconds can win or lose a race. However, they encountered a problem. The boys could change wheels in under six seconds, but in under 15 seconds they had resprayed the car, rebirthed it and sold it to the McLaren team.

Marong Picnic

Federation again held the annual Marong picnic and again we showed our support. Our numbers were down considerably this year, as was the overall attendance, mainly because of the weather forecast which predicted very strong winds and heavy rain around lunch time.

Four members braved the impending weather conditions and set off at 9.00am. On arrival we entered from the Bendigo road entrance and parked around the perimeter of the oval. Then it was time for a cuppa before setting off for a look at all the other vehicles on display. The perimeter was filled to about three quarters capacity so there was plenty to see.

Shortly before lunch the 'tractor trek' commenced with about 20 tractors doing a parade lap and then leaving on their trek. As usual there was a large variety of tractors chugging along.

Once again, the 'Golden Oldies' were grouped together and before leaving they also did a parade lap. There were about 60 vintage cars entered this year, and they looked quite stately as they departed the oval. Their tour this year brought them to Maryborough for a couple of nights, and then on to Daylesford and Ballarat for the remainder of the tour.

The weather stayed dry until departure time and it was not until we reached Havelock that it started to rain – and then it poured. Our thoughts turned to the 'Golden Oldies' and we particularly felt sorry for those with no side curtains, and for all of them as their windscreen wipers would have fought a losing battle.

Those who attended were:

Laurie Cooke	1999 Mercedes
Don Thornhill	1976 Rover
Ron & Helen Kennedy	1969 Toyota Corolla
Garry Hayward	1929 Ford A Model
John Leach	Tractor
Darren & Connor Alexander	Modern

The 1950's and 60's – the era of tailfins

When we think of tailfins on cars, one of the first to spring to mind is the 1959 Cadillac, as are many other American-designed large cars. It was a time of excess, with long wheelbases, long front and rear overhangs and heaps of chrome.



It was a style that started with the American automobile industry and spread worldwide. Subtle tailfins encompassing vertical taillights were first seen on the 1948

Cadillac, and the style grew from there. Some say it was inspired by aeronautical design with the development and introduction of the jet engine, and the need for the tailfin and wings to provide greater stability at higher speed than that of propellor driven aircraft. At the same time rockets became more commonplace as the space race began. In the mid 1950's, the public's imagination was being expanded rapidly as progress and development raced ahead after just ten years since the ending of the war. The tailfin included the taillights, and were designed more and more to resemble the tailfins of the jet fighters and space rockets. The 1959 Cadillac also hinted at the machine guns on jet fighters, and the excitement of each new car with larger tailfins was eagerly anticipated by a buying public.



Soon automobile manufacturers in all countries were adding tailfins to the designs of their vehicles, though none came close to those of the American cars. In Great Britain the tailfin was much more subdued as could be seen on the Ford Anglia 105E from 1959 until the mid 60's, the Morris Major (1959 – 1964) and the Ford Zephyr Mk 11 and Mk111 (1956 – 1966), as well as the Triumph Herald from 1959 and even the Vauxhall Cresta of 1957 – 1961, for example. The Morris Oxford from this era had perhaps the longest reign of tailfins as it was called the Hindustan Ambassador in India and the design of this car remained virtually unchanged for nearly 60 years. In Europe, Mercedes had them on the 1959 model 190, as well as others, although they were very much subdued and did not include the taillight.



In Australia tailfins were perhaps most evident on the FB and EK Holden. They appeared at the time when America was making smaller tailfins as they were falling from favour of the buying motorist. GMH's first foray into tailfins could be said to be the chrome bolt-on fins of the FE and FC models, or perhaps even the fins on the reflectors of the FJ. The R and S models of Chrysler Valiant of the early 1960's encompassed tailfins at an angle, and the first Ford Falcons also had a subtle tailfin wrapped around the taillight. By the mid 60's the tailfin had all but disappeared.

General Meeting Sunday 18th August 2024

OPENED: The meeting opened at 2:04 PM President Keith Dodkins welcomed everyone and remarked no visitors.

PRESENT: Thirty-seven (37) members as per the attendance book.

APOLOGIES: Darren Anderson, Ray & Maree Anderson, Jim Dewar, In Rogers, Dan Devilliers, Dolly Evans, Di Smith, Darren Alexander.

MINUTES: Minutes of the prior General Meeting in July 2024 as published in Auto Torque, were submitted for confirmation Moved: Neville Little Sec'd: Les Barry Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING: NIL.

CORRESPONDENCE:

In: 8 Club Newsletters two from VCCCB – April and May arrived in May.
Bendigo bank statement.

Peter Mac receipt - \$115.20

Restored Cars – Magazine & Renewal form.

Emails: Mt Franklin Picnic – VCCC Ballarat – Sunday 20th October 2024 from 10:30 AM.

Federation Agenda – August AGM & August Meeting .

Mt Gambier VVCC – Spring Time Rally – Friday 11th to Sunday 13th October 2024

Goulburn Valley MVDC – Rally of the Valley – November 1st to 5th 2024.

Motors & Masters Festival starts 22nd to 24th November at Melbourne Showgrounds.

Retro Autos online notice - <https://club.shannons.com.au/club/news/retroautos/commodore-vb-w-wide-bodied-opportunity/>

Federation – Swap Volunteers notice – not many returned.

Consumer Affairs Victoria - Annual statement notification.

Lions Club Charlton – Annual Swap Sunday 13th October 2024.

Optima Ultimate Street Car Calder Park – <https://www.ultimatestreetcar.au/>

Moved: Amanda Gardner Sec'd: Jenny Austin Carried.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Laurie Cooke gave a verbal report on Club finances for the month of July 2024.

Laurie moved that the accounts be accepted. Sec'd: Tony Evans Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Amanda Gardner gave a brief verbal report.

OUTINGS:

August – Marong Picnic – Depart Railway Station at 9AM, regroup meet other at 10AM near Marong Golf Club – entry is now via Bendigo road.

29th September Big Stupa Bendigo.

27th October Clydesdale Primary School - BBQ onsite BYO food.

30th November Christmas Lunch at Carisbrook Senior Citizens halls - \$25/person – subsidised \$15/member, a \$10/person booking fee is required when booking – envelopes will be available – this is due to too many no shows last year

FEDERATION REPORT:

Fuels report & Survey still open for submissions

Cars that Rally / race / Hillclimb should NOT be on Club Plates, there are new rules for Trucks over 4.5Ton.

Brief mention of tax laws for clubs & Swap List needs to be returned by end of August.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

President Keith reminded members that if they park alongside the club room to please leave the walkway clear when reversed in.

There are several bags of oranges from Keith & Maria's orange tree free to take.

Matt Waite thanked Ron & Helen for the SMS reminders for meetings and outings.

Russell Bell queried if the North Central club was still going – not holding meetings or outings was reported.

CLOSED: President Keith closed the meeting at 2:40 PM – AGM to start after a brief break.

Annual General Meeting 18th August 2024

Open: 2:36PM.

PRESENT: Thirty-seven (37) members as per the attendance book.

APOLOGIES: Darren Anderson, Ray & Maree Anderson, Jim Dewar, In Rogers, Dan Devilliers, Dolly Evans, Di Smith, Darren Alexander.

MINUTES: Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting printed in Auto Torque September 2023 and passed out at AGM were Moved: Bill Wilson Sec'd: Jenny Austin Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING Nil.

REPORTS

President: Keith Dodkins reported he has enjoyed his time as President, but life is getting busy and he'd like a few years off, he thanked the committee and volunteers who make the club function.

Treasurer: 2023 to 2024 EOFY report was handed out
Moved to be accepted by Bill Wilson Sec'd: Daryl Barry Carried.

MDHVC AGM ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

President declares all positions vacant and Neville Little as Chairman takes over for the election.

Chairman Neville thanked the outgoing executive and committee members who are so important to keep the club going, He pointed out that it's a great social club as well as a car club, he also thanked the volunteer workers who are the backbone of a successful club.

Some discussion was held before Russell Bell was nominated and elected for President

Election of President: nomination: Russell Bell moved: Amanda Gardner sec'd: Bill Wilson
Elected and declared President.

Election of Vice-President: nomination: Keith Dodkins moved: Daryl Barry sec'd: Peter Gray
Elected and declared Vice President.

Election of Treasurer: nomination: Laurie Cooke moved: Peter Gray sec'd: Keith Dodkins
Elected and declared Vice President.

Election of Secretary: nomination: Amanda Gardner declared Secretary.

Election of Committee Positions (Min. 2 to Max. 5):

nomination: Ron Kennedy

nomination: Helen Kennedy

nomination: Bruce Anderson

nomination: Peter Gray

nomination: Daryl Barry all positions declared filled.

Neville Little declared all positions filled, congratulated the new committee and handed over to the new President.

President Russell Bell thanked Chairman Neville Little and stated he'd like to see more members at outings and better runs while keeping costs down. He then closed the meeting at 2:55 PM.