



Goldfields
Car Club Inc.

Established 1998

Goldfields Gazette

Newsletter of the
Goldfields Car Club Inc.

May 2024



Goldfields
Car Club Inc.

Registered No: A0037502W



Postal Address

PO Box 2039
Bakery Hill 3354

Email address

goldfieldsgazette@gmail.com

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of every month (except January at the Lions' Den, rear of the Pinarc building at 222 Otway Street South, Ballarat.



GCC has been a member of the Association of Motoring Clubs since 1999

Office Bearers for 2023 - 2024

President	Ray Mason	0419 777 025	ray.mason@hotmail.com
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Committee	Laurie Wackett	0429 447 132	laurieandiane@wackett.id.au
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Club Permits

Permit Officer 1	Ray Mason	0419 777 025	ray.mason@hotmail.com
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Scrutineer	Rod Jones	5342 4521	

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Remember meeting time will continue to be 7.30pm.

Newsletter Contributions

Reports, articles, and other items to be forwarded to the Editor by no later than 5 pm on the first Thursday of each month for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Written contributions should be lodged in MS Word, and photos lodged in JPG format. (Late items will be included in the following issue.)

Member Welfare News

Anyone wishing to inform the Club of a member's illness or welfare, please contact the secretary who will arrange for a card to be sent.

CLUB CALENDAR See Page 9 & 10

Event Organisers

Please send an attendance list to the Secretary and ask someone to email a report to the Editor for the Gazette. Word format preferred.

COVER CAR

Brief History of the Z3

The first BMW Z3 was launched into the US market in 1996 with a pre-production preview in the James Bond movie *Golden Eye* in 1995. The Z3 was BMW's answer to the Mazda MX5 (known as the *Miata* in the US.)

In 1995 a new factory was established in Spartanburg South Carolina to exclusively build the Z3. These cars were never produced in Germany. This Spartanburg plant today produces BMW X5 and X3 SUVs. All Z cars are now made in Germany as is the small X1 SUV.

About 300,000 Z3 cars were sold over the lifetime of the model until 2002 when the Z4 was introduced as the replacement.

At launch, many automotive writers liked the optional 2.8L 6 but bagged the 4 pot Z3 as being underpowered. But over time this little Bimmer has been described as a very livable fun car that is an absolute delight to drive on twisty country roads, especially with the top down. The Z3 is very popular in both Europe and the States with plenty of spares, knowledge and mechanics to keep them on the road and track.

In 1997 the first Z3 roadsters were sold in Australia.

The History of our Z3

Our Z3 was built in November 1999 and is a 2000 Model Year update at which time BMW discontinued the 4 cyl. engine and concentrated on a 2.0L and 3.0L line 6. The Z3 M series used a different power plant and other "go faster" tricks.

Our car is a 2.0 L with BMW's "Varnos" variable valve timing system used in all 6 cyl. cars from 1998. From about 2011 a new range of turbo 4 Cyl engines has been offered to most BMW products. An upgraded turbo in line 6 is available for their higher performance models. Smaller 3 Cyl. engines are also available on some cars. Diesels are on offer in the X5 and X3 variants.

Our car was first registered in Adelaide in 2000 and finally made its way to Victoria with its second owner in July 2011. We purchased the car in October 2019.

Brian R



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A Big month started with Bruce's mystery country canter which was a good run for the Buick. The monthly club meeting followed with guest speaker, Andrew Hamilton from the Ballarat Veterans Assistance Centre. And for me, the month ended with The Mt. Mitchell Estate picnic lunch tour.

After which we had a bite to eat and cups of tea at the Learmonth Lake foreshore where we chatted on in the sunshine. It was an interesting day strolling through the grounds of a heritage property hearing the stories of its place in the local area.

Ray



BMW Museum Munich



ANZAC DAY

Goldfields were involved in two ANZAC Day events.

Following the visit at the club meeting by Andrew Hamilton, Stuart, Brian G and Norm along with VCCC members drove returned servicemen in the march in golf buggies.

The club also ran a sausage sizzle at Bunnings on their behalf in aid of the Ballarat Veterans Assistance Centre.

Pic Margaret Gavan

Coffee Run Thursday April 11

Members gathered at the East bus exchange in Brown Hill ready for a “Mystery Run”. Nineteen members plus one visitor in about 12 cars. President Ray had asked earlier if the run was “Old Car Friendly”, to which I replied “there are only a couple of hills” knowing his Buick was capable of keeping up. I hadn’t said that the hills were each several kilometres long but each time I looked back there was the blue Buick in line.

We travelled out along Springs Road Brown Hill which veered into Clarkes Road then turned to become Maddens Rd. All the time riding in altitude, crossing over two major roads. It’s hard to find roads we hadn’t been on before but this time I think we did.

Eventually we came to Dean taking the Creswick-Dean Road then arriving at the American Hotel in Creswick. The Hotel was tastefully renovated with walls adorned with many early photographs. It took a little time for everyone to get a drink but along with scones with jam and cream, we all got a drink.

Bruce Kerr

Pic Trevor/Bruce



Goldfields Anzac Day Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings on 25/4/2024

For me this was a great day! It started at 5.30am for the dawn service. I got back home at 8am, had breakfast, fell asleep in the chair.

After packing the ute for the sausage sizzle, I arrived 15min early, everyone else arrived 30 minutes early. We finally started cooking at 12.55 for 1pm sales of sausages.

A great day was had by all.

The workers were Gerard and Sally, Chris, Phil, Judy, Peter, Brian, Wayne, Bill, Colin, Russell, Leanne, David, Mike, Peter B. Laurie and I looked on.

We raised about \$1000 for the Ballarat Veterans Assistance Centre. Well done everyone.

RAY

MT MITCHELL CLUB RUN





Pics Trevor

It was a chilly but sunny morning when our members assembled at Strides for our monthly run to visit the Mount Mitchell Homestead located on the Sunraysia Highway between Waubra and Lexton. This run was arranged by Judy and Bill Loader, and whilst we had a smaller group of participants than normal, we knew we were in for a good day – the weather was sunny and the historic property was of interest to us all.

Goldfields’ members in attendance were –

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| President Ray and Avis Mason | Holden EK 1962 |
| Faye and Trevor Parry | BMW |
| Judy and Bill Loader | Mercedes Benz 280 CE Coupe 1974 |
| Peter and Fay Bond | Mercedes Benz 280 CE Coupe 1978 |
| Lyle Jamieson | Jaguar XJ6 1993 |
| Colin Menz | Modern |

Bill gave out the run sheets and we headed off through Windermere, Weatherboard and Bur-rumbeet along Remembrance Drive to Learmonth and finally to the Mount Mitchell Estate, some 8kms beyond Waubra on the Sunraysia Highway. Following the recent rain, the countryside is green again and the autumn colours are on display, so with the added bonus of the sunshine it was a lovely drive and well planned.

On our arrival at Mount Mitchell Homestead we were warmly welcomed by Kate Tol who, with her husband Simon, have owned this historic property for the last nine years and have carried out extensive renovations. Our visit began in the heritage listed stables where Kate had prepared her, still warm, home baked scones and jam and cream, along with tea and coffee. A great way to start the visit with a morning tea, during which Kate traced the history of the estate which was settled in 1838 with ninety six thousand acres and the boundaries ran from the present property to Buninyong – some fifty miles! The beautiful bluestone homestead was built in 1860 by the Robertson family who owned the property until 1926, and the noted architect, Charles Webb, also designed the Windsor Hotel, the Royal Arcade in Melbourne and Melbourne Grammar School.

Then it was time for a tour of the grounds of the property along with Kate and her three energetic Border Collie sheep dogs. Mount Mitchell homestead has ten acres of manicured gardens including roses, a kitchen garden, cypress and hawthorn hedges and an extensive lake as the perfect backdrop. It was a delight to visit this property and its buildings and grounds!

Having farewelled Kate at Mount Mitchell we travelled back to Learmonth where Judy and Bill had selected a sunny spot in the park beside Lake Learmonth for our picnic lunch and a chat. As usual there was plenty of humour and stories which kept us entertained for an hour or so and it was a very relaxing way to finish the day. The most important topics covered during lunch were the variety and effectiveness of hearing aids, knee replacements and the treatment of heart conditions! Classic cars did not get a look-in! Maybe we are getting older!

Oh, and if anyone finds a petrol cap for a Jaguar XJ6, please return it to Lyle.

Although the group was small in number, it was a great run prepared by Judy and Bill and thoroughly enjoyed by our members – thanks to you both.

Report by Fay and Peter Bond.

For Sale

1966 Sandrover Mini Caravan 10'6" 3 berth with full annex & awning, 2 new spare L/T wheels and tyres. \$4000.

Vintage Morris Radiator cap and Wilmot Breedon Temp gauge in working order \$250.

Vintage clamp on running board luggage rack \$120.

1955 Howard Yeoman Rotary Hoe with Villiers Mk 40 7HP in running order with operating manuals \$350.

1955/6 Daimler Conquest Century bumper bars front and rear, good usable condition \$100 pair.

Gordon Roberts ph 0409773464.

2024		GOLDFIELDS CAR CLUB CALENDAR OF EVENTS		Events & details subject to change
Feb	Thursday 1	Twilight Run	Burrumbeet Picnic BYO Everything Meet at Caravan Park Memorial Drive 5pm	
	Thursday 8	Coffee & Chat	Ballarat Golf Club Meet at Venue 2pm	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
	Sunday 11	American Chrome	Lake Wendouree North Gardens 10am - 4pm	John Smyth 0418 399 339
	Wednesday 21	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Sunday 25	Club Run	Farm Tour BYO Everything, plus Picnic Lunch. Meeting at Strides at 9.15am, coffee stop at Skipton.	Bill & Judy Loader 0428 519 231 0418 519 231
	Wednesday 28	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
Mar	Wednesday 6	Twilight Run	Buninyong Gardens BYO Everything Meet at Gardens 5pm	
	Thursday 14	Lunch Run	Glenlyon General Store Depart Ballarat East School Bus Exchange 11am	Gary & Judyth Armstrong 0427243643
	Wednesday 20	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Saturday 23	Club Run	Eddington Sprints BYO Lunch Depart Ballarat East Bus Exchange 9.30am	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
	Wednesday 27	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
Apr	Thursday 11	Coffee Run	Mystery Run Depart from Ballarat East Bus Exchange at 1.30pm	Bruce Kerr 0438 394 026
	Wednesday 17	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 24	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Thursday 25	Anzac Day	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle 1-4pm	Ray Mason 0419 777 025
	Sunday 28	Club Run	Mt Mitchell Estate BYO Picnic LunchTour \$15p.p. Devonshire Tea \$15p.p.	Bill & Judy Loader 0428 519 231 0418 519 231
May	Thursday 9	Coffee Run	Shed Tour (local) & Coffee Meet at Ballarat East School Bus Exchange 2pm	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
	Wednesday 15	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 22	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Sunday 26	Club Run	Beeac Pub Lunch. Meet at Strides Greyhound Track carpark 10.00am	Bill & Judy Loader 0428 519 231 0418 519 231
Jun	Thursday 13	Coffee Run	Mystery Run	Wayne & June Harrop 0448 230 947
	Wednesday 19	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 26	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Sunday 30	Club Run	Halls Gap Zoo Meet at Strides Greyhound Car Park	Wayne & June Harrop 0448 230 947

2024	GOLDFIELDS CAR CLUB CALENDAR OF EVENTS			<i>Events & details subject to change</i>
Jul	Thursday 11	Coffee & Chat	Lilly's at Eureka Meet at Venue 2pm	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
	Wednesday 17	Club AGM	Lion's Den 7.30pm Election Night	
	Wednesday 24	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Sunday 28	Club Run	Maryborough BIRTHDAY RUN & LUNCH	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
Aug	Thursday 8	Coffee Run	Mystery Run	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
	Wednesday 21	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Friday 23 - 26	CLUB WEEKEND	TOCUMWAL 3 night trip	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
	Wednesday 28	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
Sept	Thursday 12	Coffee Run	Tulips Lambley Nursery & Gardens Ascot Coffee at Clunes	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
	Wednesday 18	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 25	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Sunday 29	Club Run	Daffodils Kyneton	Steve Kelly & Julie Wilson 0435 428 915 0400 126 870
Oct	Thursday 10	Coffee Run	TBA	
	Wednesday 16	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 23	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
	Saturday/Sunday 26/27	Club Run/Weekend	Dunolly Gold Festival Weekend (Free camping available at the Oval)	Trevor Parry 0408 580 523
Nov	Thursday 14	Coffee Run	TBA	
	Sunday 17	Club Run	Moonambel Patina Breakdown	Frances & Chris O'Beirne 0488 464 500 0417 129 373
	Wednesday 20	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	
	Wednesday 27	Ladies Coffee	The Olive Grove 1303 Sturt St 10am - 11am New faces welcome Chris/Marg	Chris Bell 0400 099 532 Margaret Gavan 0408 334 926
Dec	Sunday 8	Lunch	Invermay Sports Club Christmas Lunch	
	Thursday 12	Coffee Run	TBA	
	Wednesday 18	Club Meeting	Lion's Den 7.30pm	

CLUB WEEKEND TOCUMWAL 3 NIGHT TRIP 23-26 AUGUST 2024

THE BIG RED GUM, RIVER RUN

Chris and I have been busy putting together a Goldfields Car Club 3 day (3 nights) run staying in Tocumwal NSW. The intention is to leave Ballarat at an acceptable hour on Friday morning 23rd August and return home on Monday 26th. However, how long and where you stay is up to you. I have chosen

"The Boomerang Way Tourist Park"

PH: 1800 888 987,

www.boomerangwaytouristpark.com.au



The parks are all very comparable price wise but this one seemed just a bit better and it also has an extra-large camp kitchen for our after hours shenanigans.

- 4 Motel rooms 2 people \$125.00 PN
- 2 Open Plan Cabins 2 adults + 2 children \$135.00 PN
- 2 x 2-bedroom cabins 2 adults + 2 children \$155.00 PN
- 1 x 2-bedroom poolside villa Both bedrooms queen bed }
- 1 x 2-bedroom poolside villa. B/R 1 Queen B/R 2, has 2 single beds } \$190. PN
- 1 x 2-bedroom poolside villa B/R 1 Queen B/R 2 double }
- Caravan sites are: - \$40 PN Powered. En-suite \$52 PN

All prices are for 2 people

I am not insisting that you stay at this park, but a discount will be offered if we have adequate bookings.

I do strive to keep costs to a minimum on trips like this, but at present I am completely discombobulated by what a dollar used to buy compared to what it does today.

I recon we have put together a pretty good week-end for you, but now I need to tidy up the loose ends before presenting you with the complete itinerary. If you intend to join us on this late August run, I suggest that you make your accommodation arrangements ASAP because Tocumwal is a pretty popular place especially in winter. If you need to know more, please phone Frances on **0448 464 500**.

(Trust me.....We will have a HOOT)



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