

# BACKFIRE

Volume 58 No 2 June 2024

PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219

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



MOKE



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](http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com)



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## HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE - 2024/2025

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>                           | John Bailey (Julie Bennett)   | 0413 258 302                            |
| <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>                      | Barb van Galen (Ray)  | 0408 664 537                            |
| <b>SECRETARY</b>                           | Fred Harris (Sharyn)      secretary@wdhvcgeelong.com                              | 0417 306 177                            |
| <b>TREASURER</b>                           | Maurice Healy (Barbara)      mbhealy@gmail.com                                    | 0419 154 923                            |
| <b>GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>           |   |   |
| Graeme Anderson (Veronica)                 | 0428 484 340  | Simon Anderson (Tess)      0414 482 241 |
| Jon Breedveld (Glenda)                     | 0417 311 441  | Anne De Bono (Angelo)      0439 743 591 |
| Col Jordan (Lyn)                           | 0425 822 026  | Ken Parry (Jenny)      0437 254 351     |
| Gus Shea (Pam)                             | 0400 203 151  |   |
| David Mitchell (Immediate Past President)  | 0409 099 716  |   |
| <b>RALLY CO-ORDINATOR</b>                  | Ken Parry (Jenny)   | 0437 254 351 / 5275 4335                |
| <b>LONG DISTANCE RALLY CO-ORDINATOR</b>    | Lyn Jordan (Col)  | 0425 822 025                            |
| <b>PROGRAM DIRECTOR</b>                    | John Bailey (Julie Bennett)   | 0413 258 302                            |
| <b>EDITOR</b>                              | Jon Breedveld (0417 311 441)      editor@wdhvcgeelong.com                         |   |
| <b>WEB SITE</b>                            | Damien "Gus" Giustini (Teena)      (0418 587 415)      webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com |   |
| <b>MINUTE SECRETARY</b>                    | VACANT Em. Libby Booley   |   |
| <b>TECH NIGHTS</b>                         | Peter Telfer (Gaylene)  | 0427 526 938                            |
| <b>CLUBROOM &amp; EQUIPMENT CARETAKERS</b> | Max McKenzie 5248 2380      Syd Clifton      5243 0053                            |   |
|  | Bernie Turner 5248 5743   |   |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR</b>                | Barb van Galen (Ray)      rbvangalen@gmail.com                                    | 0408 664 537                            |
| <b>TINKER DAYS</b>                         | Dallas Jones  | 0432 172 171                            |
| <b>SOCIAL SECRETARY</b>                    | Marg Hose   | 0402 213 908                            |
| <b>VEHICLE COMPLIANCE OFFICERS</b>         | Gus Shea (Pam) 0400 203 151      Dallas Jones                                     | 0432 172 171                            |
| <b>BAY CITY SWAP DIRECTOR</b>              | David Mitchell (Libby)  | 0409 099 716                            |
| <b>BAY CITY SWAP COMMITTEE</b>             | John Bailey      0413 258 302      Rod Booley      0417 021 982                   |   |
|  | Murray Foran      5248 2553      Max McKenzie      5248 2380                      |   |
| <b>CLUB MERCHANDISE SALES</b>              | David Mitchell      0409 099 716  |   |
| <b>PRINTING OFFICER</b>                    | Peter Telfer (Gaylene)  | 0427 526 938                            |
| <b>CLUB PHOTO MAINTENANCE</b>              | Dallas Jones  | 0432 172 171                            |
| <b>LIBRARIAN</b>                           | Phill Abbott (Doreen)   | 0439 965 210                            |
| <b>FEDERATION DELEGATE</b>                 | David Perkins   |   |
| <b>LADIES COMMITTEE CO-ORDINATOR</b>       | Pam Shea (Gus)      0487 696 097  |   |
| <b>RGAPS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE</b>        | vacant  |   |
| <b>LIFE MEMBERS</b>                        | Ken Batson      Fred Harris      Judith Matthews                                  |   |
|  | Max McKenzie      Trevor Schneider      Max Tucker                                |   |
|  | Ray van Galen   |   |
| <b>CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR</b>             | Ken Parry   |   |
| <b>ERIC BAKER MEMORIAL AWARD</b>           | Jack Thomas   |   |



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## *The President's Piece - notes from a big country*

Greetings All,

Firstly let me congratulate and thank David and the team of some 65 volunteers who made the 2024 Swap such a success. While the rain on the Friday "set up" morning didn't look promising, Saturday stayed dry and the showground was completely covered with site holders and punters looking for a bargain. Despite having to give the tax man 25% of our earnings, we will still make a healthy profit. Well done all!

I was saddened to hear of the passing of three club members this month: long time members Kevin Baker and Jeanette Dragt, and also Murray Turner. The club extends its condolences to their families and friends.

A big thank you to Lyn Jordan, who has stepped up to take on the Long Distance Rally, when Sharyn and Fred stepped down from this role, after many years organising the event. I am sure the rally will continue to prove a popular highlight of our busy calendar.

Ray van Galen arranged an informative talk about the cochlear hearing implants last month and I have a few more interesting speakers lined up for coming meetings.

We will have an "in house" garage sale at the June meeting. Coral Nicholson has had a clean out and we will be offering a range of quality gear for sale to members on her behalf.

Please always refer to your Backfire to check the calendar of the many events and activities which

provide something for everyone and keep us all busy.

Enjoy your cars

John

### ***Eric Baker Appreciation Award***

*Jack Thomas received the Eric Baker Memorial Appreciation Award at the May meeting. The award is presented annually to a non-committee person who has made a valuable/outstanding contribution to the club in the previous year. The winner is chosen by the committee.*



*The bowler hat was carved by John Bailey in 2009, including a hat band donated by Shirley Kaub. The Baker family attended the May 2009 meeting to inaugurate the award, which was named to honor "Mr Swap", Eric Baker, who made a bowler hat his trademark. The first winners were Rhonda Foran in 2009; Max McKenzie in 2010; and Graham Pretlove in 2011.*

*- Judith Matthews*

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No 635 OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.

HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024

## PRESIDING

President John Bailey opened the meeting and welcomed 82 members and visitors to meeting No 635.

## APOLOGIES

David Perkins, Jennie Green, Marg and Lindsay Hose, Tony and Miriam Brincat, Rod and Lorraine Roach, Tiny Stonehouse, Phil Abbott, Adrian Van Der Lee, Darryn Tucker, Jan Clissold, Brian Edwards, Darren Clissold, Vern and Joan Stott, Merv and Maree Batson, Tim Paech, David Koch, Rhonda Alexander, Noreen Mellington, Brian Woodman and Courtney Field

Moved: Jim Coates

Seconded: Graeme Anderson Carried

## SICK LIST

Nil

## MINUTES

The minutes of the April general meeting as published in the Backfire be confirmed as a correct record.

Moved: Sharyn Harris

Seconded: Max McKenzie Carried

## CORRESPONDENCE (Fred)

### INWARD

#### Letters In

- Ken Batson - thanking the club for our thoughts on his recent illness and hospital stay.

#### Emails In

- Resignation notifications from Bruce Hart and Guy Perdrisat.

### OUTWARD

#### Letters Out

- Welcome letters to new members approved at the last committee meeting -
  - Brian and Cheryl Woodman.
  - Dean Handron and Jamie Wheelan
- Get Well cards :
  - Joan Stott
  - Ken Batson
  - Bernie Turner
  - Trevor and Annetta Warren
  - Gaylene Telfer
- Sympathy Cards -
  - Max McKenzie on the passing of Jeanette Dragt.
  - Bernie Turner on the passing of his brother Murray.
  - Marilyn Turner on the passing of Murray.
  - John Tantau on the passing of his mother.

#### Emails Out

Nil

Moved: Peter Telfer

Seconded: Bernie Turner Carried

## TREASURER'S REPORT (Maurice)

Maurice presented his report on receipts and payments since the previous meeting and presented accounts to be passed for payment.

Moved: Maurice Healy

Seconded: Ray Matthews Carried

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR (John)

John has our next two speakers organized

## LIBRARY (Phill)

Nil

## DINE OUT (Sharyn )

Wednesday 15 May 5.30 - 6pm at White Eagle

## EDITOR (Jon)

Dead line this month is the 27th

## WEBSITE (Damien)

Nil

## FEDERATION REPORT (David P)

Nil

## COFFEE RUN (Colin)

Thursday 6 June at The Paddock, in the old Federal Mills, Mackay St Nth Geelong

Thursday 4 July at The Common Ground in Freshwater Creek

## COMMITTEE REPORT (David M)

Topics covered:

- Dishwasher is fixed
- Extensions on the legs of the WDHVC display flags

## MERCHANDISE (David M)

WDHVC stickers are now available for \$2 each.

## TINKER DAY (Dallas)

### May - Cancelled this month

June - Scotsburn Run contact Ray van Galen

July - Lara Museum. Numbers needed for Devonshire Tea contact Rod Booley

August - Manuel Vella's shed Leopold

See Backfire for details.

## MARS BAR AWARD (Ray)

Fred Dossier was correct guessing the photo was of Tony Brincat



## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd

### VEHICLE PERMITS (Gus)

Four new cars and one motorbike were put on red plates this last month

### RALLY REPORTS

- Anzac Day breakfast at Barwon Heads was another great day. Thanks to Murray, Peter and Ken for cooking a beautiful egg and bacon roll for everyone.
- Werribee car club event in the car park was well supported by the Corvette club and seven cars from WDHVC.
- Great Ocean Road Chocolaterie was well supported and enjoyed.
- Tinker Day at Noel Sharkey's place in Gheringhap, was a fabulous collection of horse and bullock drawn vehicles and cars. A great amount of history in this collection in his huge shed.

### RALLY EVENTS (Ken)

- 19th May - Mystery Run ending in a hotel lunch. Numbers required for catering.
- 30th June - Casserole lunch in the club rooms, contact Barb.
- July - Poker Run: contact Maurice.
- August - BBQ in the bush.
- Sept - Car run to Ballarat.
- Oct - two days in Warnambool.

### LONG DISTANCE RALLY (Lyn Jordan)

16 - 22 September. Heading to Mount Gambier

### TECH NIGHT (Peter)

Tuesday 28 May - Topic - "Rubbers"

### SWAP MEET (David)

David thanked the 65 volunteers who worked at our swap. It was a great success.

### KITCHEN (Pam)

Pam thanked her kitchen ladies for all their hard work over the swap.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

- Our minute secretary Leigh Dwyer was thanked for his work as he has retired. A new minute secretary is required to fill this position.
- Bernie Turner thanked the car club for their support on the passing of his younger brother Murray.
- Max McKenzie also thanked the club for the flowers, cards and phone calls on the passing of his partner Jeanette Dragt.
- Max McKenzie was thanked for working both days of the swap whilst in his 90's. A great effort.
- John Hickford's Red Lancia was sold recently in Holland for \$100,000 as the owner has a terminal illness.

### FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

Nil

### AWARDS (John)

- Club Member of the year Ken Parry was presented with his trophy
- Lyn and Ray Davis were presented with their 25 year badges.
- The Eric Baker Trophy was presented to Jack Thomas for all the work he does for the club.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

***Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 11 June 2024 in the clubrooms.***

*- Libby Booley*

### ***Trophy Presented***

*The 2024 Club Member of the Year, Ken Parry, received his trophy at the May meeting.*



### ***25 Year Badges***

*President John presented Lyn & Ray Davis with their 25 year membership badges at the May meeting*



## What cars are these? A puzzle solved

Last month I posed a couple of vehicle identification questions. In response, Simon Anderson and Harold Newton have demonstrated the depth of vehicle knowledge held in the memories of WDHVC members. Both men were back to me in quick time.



Simon responded with: "I believe the round radiator car is either a Britannia or Bentall. There were a number of round radiator cars in the veteran era.

"The other car is an up-market vehicle like a Minerva, Daimler or Wolseley."

Thanks Simon!

### THE 1927 ROYAL TOUR CROSSLEYS



John Hickford's photo of the official cavalcade associated with the visit of the Duke and Duchess of York in 1927 drew another prompt reply from



Crossley aficionado, Harold.

He confirmed that cars were Crossleys and lent me a commemorative booklet put out by A F Gregerson Motors, the Victoria & Riverina Crossley distributors at the time.

As well as photos of the royal visit in Victoria, the booklet included images of other Victorian Crossleys in private ownership. Two pages from the booklet follow.



Royal visits by the British monarchy were extremely popular in interwar Australia. Government officials mapped the tour route and arranged road and rail transport to enable significant numbers of Australians to attend.

The Duke and Duchess visited all Australian states (except the Northern Territory) between March and May 1927.

Crossley England manufactured 12 Crossleys in Manchester and lent them to the Australian Government for the Royal Visit, the factory specially fitting out and shipping the vehicles to the antipodes. There were six 7-seater tourers, four enclosed limousines and two landaulettes, all maroon and decorated with the royal seal on the rear doors.

The Enclosed Limousine supplied for the Duke and Duchess in Australia had maroon leather upholstery. It had a spot light and the side lamps were red, so the car was readily distinguished at night as the Royal's vehicle. Extra fittings included cigar lighter, dictaphone, cushions, footrest and ladies and gentleman's companion sets.

Three of the cars carried a metal plaque on the radiator with the white rose of York emblem and the Royal motto - 'Honi soit qui mal y pense'.

All the cars had with Dunlop balloon tyres "to give the greatest possible riding comfort" while the suspension was supplemented with Houdaille hydraulic shock absorbers front and rear.

Another seven similar Crossleys was shipped to New Zealand for that leg of the Royal Tour. One was subsequently used by the New Zealand Prime Minister John Coates.

Crossley mechanics from the UK accompanied the cars for the tours. In Australia the chauffeurs were from the RAAF at Point Cook, Victoria.

The cars were used in all States [eight were shipped to Hobart from Sydney on the SS Riverina] When the Tour concluded the Crossleys were returned to the company's Australian representatives for sale locally.

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# Letters to the Editor



## Learning to drive in rural Victoria in the 1960s

On the farm, we drove the farm vehicles as soon as we could reach the pedals. We even started before that. When feeding the sheep, Dad would start the truck up in the middle of the paddock, then we would hold the steering wheel while Dad climbed on the back of the truck and threw the bales of hay off. It was easy in those days as the old trucks had running boards.

We would drive the tractor while ploughing. Initially, Dad did the first 'round' as we may run into the fence. We did not drive the tractor while sowing until we were more experienced.



Farmers would drive around and see how the neighbours' crops were growing. When the wheat first started to grow you could see the tractor driving skills. The picture shows a crop planted by a GPS-driven tractor with an air seeder, with the rows a little further apart.

We would drive on dirt roads and even cross a highway to

the local wheat silo before we got our driver's licence. We had to go to a major town to get our licence instead of the closer small county town, as police had districts back then.

Lowering of cars was not done as the dirt roads were rough. In winter we had to drive through big puddles on the road slowly as water would splash onto the spark plugs leads, causing the engine to miss until the heat would dry them out. Some cars were better than others for going through puddles. The clayey parts of the roads would become very slippery. One time I drove onto a clayey section and ended up going backwards. The unmade roads are now much better as larger trucks have carted in lots of gravel. Now travelling at 80 to 100km/h on gravel roads is OK. The only problem is they are dusty in summer and muddy in winter.

- Lindsay Alford

*Lindsay's letter brought back some memories for me too. I was feeding out on a grey Fergy tractor (picking my way between the rocks of the Stoney Rises); driving unlicensed in a 1937 Chev ute behind hungry dairy cows in the "long paddock", on gravel roads miles from home during the 1967 drought; and, later, putting a rubber glove over the leads and distributor cap to keep the water from the ignition of an ancient Mini Moke. Wish I still had that car!*

- Ed

The '37 Chev ...

... and the "One Off" Moke



# Letters to the Editor



## The Swap Meet

The big event for the year is now done and dusted, and a great success it was. A big thank you to the few people that make it happen and then the merry men that come to the fore on set up day and on swap day – gatekeepers, car parkers et cetera.

But I have to say the ladies of the club, the backbone of the show, they work like only women do and the toasties they served up on the set up day really hit the spot. How they got so many done I don't really know. There must be one hell of a griller in the kitchen. They worked like true champions and on the day the Devonshire tea was a real hit.

Now the important part is said we will go back outside to setting up the oval. And the game changer was the outrigger on the golf buggy for the line marker.

Mr Inventor set that up to lay down the lime. Not forgetting the operator who came in from Queensland for the job. No GPS tracking for this guy. The big man with whiskers, he uses his own GPS.

By the time he was finished a snake would be dizzy following. But a big thanks - it worked very well (most of the site holders couldn't follow a straight line anyhow).

Then there was the yellow stick and numbers team – that was the media man and some ring-in who thought he was helping. Poor fellow wasn't too bright – he had numbers mixed up, sticks in the wrong places. The poor old media man would have loved to sack him. But he did do one good thing – he got rid of the lone number 13 out of the box, so all the bad luck has gone.

Next came the wheelie bin parade – about 500 of them, but they were soon in place and the job was near done. I hear last year 500 dunny roles were stolen but this year they came up with a winner. It was a real stinger, the roles all got sprinkled with eucalyptus oil and that worked a treat and kept things moving in the dunnies.

It's now Friday arvo and the site holders are rolling in. The boys are busy lining them up.

Now it's Saturday and it's on for real. The gatekeepers are there in the dark and they're pouring in like you can't believe. By about 8 o'clock the oval is near full and so is the car park. People everywhere.

Not long and the first customers for the pickup boys and away the media man goes in his trusty Subie, and then the Big Red gets a call. Merv has a trailer and all. He's off to pick up gearboxes – six of them in all, a differential and an exhaust pipe. What a fine looking load! And those boys were busy all day delivering the treasure.

By about 2 o'clock things were thinning out and we could go and collect the sticks and numbers and the bins were being done. Soon the place was empty and everything was cleaned up and neat as a pin.

The Treasurer and his trusty helpers had been busy in the counting house adding up the figures

It was a great result – a lot of money had changed hands and everyone was happy. And again the ladies had refreshments laid on - a woman's work is never done.

- Gary Wallace





Life member Ray van Galen has had cochlear implants for several years and he spoke about his experience when introducing the May guest speakers, Stacey and Matt from Cochlear.

“Without them I would be stone deaf.” Ray said. He had an implant several years ago, and more recently had a second device fitted. This was after conventional hearing aids no longer helped. Like many men, Ray suffered from industrial deafness, after a lifetime of working in noisy environments without adequate protection.

Ray said the benefits of the implants were enormous. Because the devices stimulated the hearing nerves directly, the recipient’s brain has to relearn the new sounds produced. Also, the implants don’t filter background sounds so crowded rooms, and things like hearing on old telephones or deep voices remain a challenge for Ray. Typically, there is an adjustment/relearning period of around 12 months, with regular fine tuning of the “loudness” of the different band widths to suit individual users.

Stacey said that the cochlear implant was an Australian invention which Professor Graeme Clark developed over eight years, more than 40 years ago.

An interesting sidenote was that club member Ray Matthews helped to make a small terminal for an early prototype. Ray was worried about the grade of stainless steel he had used. “That’s alright Ray.” the doctor had told him, “it’s only going to be used in a cat.”

*After the talk Stacey provided several brochures about the cochlear implant: the following detail is taken from them.*

A cochlear implant system is an established treatment for people with moderately severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss, when hearing aids are no longer providing adequate benefit. A cochlear implant system works differently to hearing aids. While a hearing aid amplifies sounds into the ear canal, cochlear implants are different; they bypass the damaged part of the ear and stimulate the hearing nerve directly. This may be able to help you access missing sounds if hearing aids aren’t enough.

A cochlear implant system has two parts:

(1) *The implant.* The implant is placed just under the skin, with an electrode array inserted into the cochlea.

## - Cochlear Implants

The electrode array follows the natural curve of your cochlea and stimulates the hearing nerve.

(2) *The sound processor.* The sound processor sits on your head. Two microphones pick up sound waves, which are converted into digital information that’s transferred to the implant. The implant stimulates the hearing nerve which then sends this information to the brain to be interpreted as sound. There are two types of sound processors, worn either behind-the-ear or off-the-ear.

- 1 Microphones on the sound processor pick up sounds and the processor converts them into a digital signal.
- 2 This signal is sent to the implant just under the skin.
- 3 The implant transfers the digital sound signal to the cochlea.
- 4 The hearing nerve picks up the signal and sends it to the brain, where the sound is interpreted.



*Could a cochlear implant be right for you?*

While wearing hearing aid(s), do you

- Have difficulty hearing conversations in noisy situations?
- Frequently ask people to repeat themselves?
- Often misunderstand what people say?
- Have trouble hearing on the telephone?
- Find yourself agreeing, smiling or nodding during conversations when you are not sure what has been said?
- Only hear from one ear?
- Depend on loved ones or read lips to understand what people are saying?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, contact your hearing health professional, or the Cochlear Engagement Team on 1800 875 212

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# Events Calendar

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

- Thursday 6 June** **Coffee Run The Paddock Bakery**, Federal Mills site off Mackey St Nth Geelong, from 10am. Parking will be tough because it gets busy. The best entry point is via Gate E or F, located off McLeod St. Or enter off Mackey St just before you turn left into McLeod St and drive down past The Paddock Bakery, which will be on your left. Parking 100m further on. Most parking should be within 200m of the Bakery. Enter Bakery on the bay side and we'll sort out the seating. They don't take bookings!!!  
*Contact: Col 0425 822 026*
- Tuesday 11 June** **General Meeting** 7.30pm in Clubrooms.
- Wednesday 12 June** **Dine Out** 6pm at the RSL, Belmont.  
*Contact: Sharyn 0417 546 089*
- Tuesday 18 June** **Committee Meeting** 7.30pm in clubrooms.
- Thursday 20 June** **Tinker Day** Heading to Scotsburn near Bunninyong to look at a private collection. Meet at the parking area opposite Mortimer's Petroleum, Batesford for a 10am sharp departure. You might like to consider car pooling.  
*Contact: Ray van Galen 0408 664 537*
- Monday 24 June** **July Backfire Deadline 5pm.** *Contact: Jon B 0417 311 441*
- Tuesday 25 June** **Tech Night "Brakes"** We've done it before, but we are not stopping. Foot brakes, hand brakes, discs and drum. Park brakes on the front or rear wheels - or even the drive shaft. Hydraulic, cable or even steel rods. All welcome. Arrive at 7 pm, so we can set up for a 7.30 pm start.  
*Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938.*
- Friday 28 June** **Backfire folding morning** 9am Clubrooms.  
*Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938*
- Sunday 30 June** **Casserole day** at the club rooms. 12 o'clock start. Please put names down at June meeting night and whether you are bringing a casserole or sweet able to feed six people. Tea and coffee supplied.  
*Contact: Barb van Galen 0408 664 537*
- Thursday 4 July** **Coffee Run at the Common Ground Project** 675 Anglesea Rd Freshwater Creek. Turn left into Dickens Rd and then next right onto a dirt road and drive a couple of hundred metres. Parking is mostly on the right. If you miss this turn go down about 500m further down the Anglesea Rd and turn left, then first left and you'll end up at the same place. If Geelong people want to meet at the Clubrooms for a 9.30am departure we can travel there together, hopefully!!!!  
*Contact: Col 0425 822 026*
- 16 - 22 September** **Long Distance Rally** - to Mt. Gambier. If interested, please call Lyn.  
*Contact: Lyn on 0425 822 025*

## Other Events

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

|           |                                |  |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--|
| June 9    | Maldon Swap                    | Maldon Racecourse Text Mark 0414 244 842                 |
| June 30   | "Fridge" Swap                  | 302 Dana Street Ballarat Central, Ballarat Road Rodders  |
| Sept 1    | Nyora Swap                     | Nyora Reserve Gruny Avenue, Nyora, Vic                   |
| Sept 8    | Shepparton Swap                | Shepparton Showground                                    |
| Sept 22   | Wallan Swap                    | Wallan Secondary College                                 |
| Oct 5-6   | Alexandra Heritage Festival    | heritage machinery festival - Alexandra Museum           |
| Oct 13    | Colac Swap                     | Colac Racecourse, enq Graham 0428 394 249                |
| Oct 20    | Bacchus Marsh Swap             | Maddingley Park  |
| Oct 27    | Talbot Swap                    | Talbot Football Ground                                   |
| Oct 27    | HTPAA Antique Hand Tool Market | St. Anthony's School Hall, 164 Neerim Rd, Caulfield East |
| Nov 10    | Edenhope Swap                  | Edenhope Show Grounds                                    |
| Nov 10    | Maldon Swap                    | Maldon Racecourse,. Text Mark 0414 244 842               |
| Nov 16-17 | Bendigo Swap                   | Bendigo Showground                                       |
| Nov 17    | Cobden Swap                    | Cobden Showground Cobden Pioneer Park                    |
| Nov 24    | Maldon Swap                    | Maldon Racecourse,. Text Mark 0414 244 842               |

### 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](mailto:editor@wdhvcgeelong.com)

# RALLIES & RUNS

## Anzac Day Tradition Observed



Warm coats, scarves and beanies were the order of the day for members attending the traditional Anzac Day breakfast on the Barwon Heads foreshore last month. While the breeze was cool and the sun in scant supply, the rain did hold off – and the delicious egg, cheese and bacon toasted rolls hit the spot. More than one person was seen going back for seconds or making a scalding mug of coffee from the urn.



As always, it was an opportunity for quiet recognition of the significance of the day and engaging conversations with this person or that. People moved easily among the little clusters that gathered in a sheltered corner of the rotunda or braved it at an exposed picnic table or circle of camp chairs, catching up with those they hadn't seen for a while or were with just last week.

A very satisfying morning. Thank you to Murray, Ken and Peter for organising and their sterling work at the hotplates (which had the compensation of being the warmest place around!) - Ed



**Rod Booley took this panoramic shot of the Swap from the far side of the oval**





# RALLIES & RUNS

Seen at the Swap Meet - random photos from this year's successful Bay City Swap



Photos: Tim Christie & Ed



## VALE - JEANETTE DRAGT 31/10/1938 - 20/4/2024

It is with a great deal of sadness that we learnt that Jeanette had passed away.

Jeanette grew up in Lara and she has had a long association with the district. She trained as a hairdressing apprentice and later established a hardware shop in Lara in 1966, which she ran for 11 years.

Thirty-five years ago Jeanette moved into a unit at Lara and she became a demonstrator for Husqvarna sewing machines for | 15 years, travelling to Melbourne daily.

Jeanette's son, Michael is married to Max McKenzie's daughter, Amanda and when Jeanette and Max started keeping company some 23 years ago, the members of our Club came to know Jeanette, who soon became an active and vital member of the WDHVC. For several years she was our Social Secretary, sending greeting cards to members.

Soon after joining our Club, Jeanette teamed up with the late Rhonda Foran to manage the kitchen and catering arrangements, a task they did so very well for many years.

Jeanette was also an active member of several other groups including the CWA and Probus.

Her funeral service was very well attended, a testimony to the high regard with which Jeanette was held, both in the community and in our club. Those attending were gifted packets of flower seeds with the invitation "*plant these seeds in loving memory of Jeanette*".

The Western District Historic Vehicle Club has indeed been privileged to have had Jeanette as a member and while we extend our deepest sympathy to Max and the family at this time, we will cherish the memories we have of Jeanette which perhaps can be represented by the poem presented at the funeral service -

*You had a smile for everyone*

*You had a heart of gold*

*You left behind the memories*

*That we will always hold.*



*Compiled by Trevor Schneider*

## *Cochlear Implants (from page 8)*

### **Some Facts**

*There is no upper age limit for cochlear implantation.* Age should not prevent you from considering a cochlear implant. As we age, it's important to stay in touch. Cochlear implants are for people of all ages and from all walks of life.

*There is public funding available for cochlear implant systems.* In Australia, the government offers funding for cochlear implant systems, surgery and fitting through the public hospital system. Each state and territory varies in terms of criteria and the number of cochlear implant systems that are funded. Waiting lists may apply.

*Cochlear implant surgery is routine surgery.* The procedure takes about two hours under general anaesthesia. In most cases, recovery is usually quick, with most people returning home from hospital the day after surgery and resuming normal activities within a few days.

*You don't have to be completely deaf in both ears.* Cochlear implant systems are for people with moderately severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss in either one or both ears, when hearing aids no longer provide

adequate benefit. While wearing hearing aids, if you struggle to hear on the phone or understand conversations in noisy environments, a cochlear implant may be a suitable option.

*How much does a cochlear implant cost?* There are a variety of funding options. Cochlear implants are covered through the public health system or Medicare, government programs and private health insurance (hospital cover).

Private health insurance hospital cover may fund up to 100% of costs associated with cochlear implants. Coverage of the surgical procedure and any hospital costs will depend on your level of insurance.

State Governments fund cochlear implants for adults each year through the public health system. The number in each state varies and waiting lists may apply.

Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) may cover up to 100% of costs associated with cochlear implants.

## VALE - KEVIN BAKER 26/1/1930 – 23/4/2024



We were saddened to learn of the passing of Kevin, who has been a member of our club for 45 years.

We fondly remember Kevin and his late wife, June, regularly entertaining us at the "Oily Faces" Christmas concerts, with them dressing up proving great amusement for all. Kevin videoed many club functions. Kevin and June have been very active club members, regularly attending meetings, rallies and events. A few years ago Kevin arranged with various suppliers to provide discounts for members making purchases.

His vehicle interests were a 1956 Peugeot van, a Chrysler Royal and pushbikes.

His other interests included numismatics (coin collecting).

Some people may remember Kevin as the

driver of the vintage Chevrolet hearse operated by Tuckers Funeral Service.

Pictured is Kevin enjoying some vintage motoring at a Tinker Day in April 2021, and we fondly remember our club visit to Allen David Lodge last November where he warmly welcomed club members.

Kevin was the adored father of Ian, Colin and Carol, father-in-law to Allan and a proud and loving grandfather and great grandfather. We extend our condolences and share their thoughts and memories at this time.

*Compiled by Trevor Schneider*

## VALE - MURRAY TURNER 31/1/1948 - 26/4/2024



Murray passed away suddenly after a heart attack on 26/4/2024, aged 76 .

Murray's brother, Burnie encouraged him to join the Western District Historic Vehicle Club and Murray then discovered that he already knew several club members from his involvement with other community groups and his work as a hospital equipment supplier.

He has always had a preference for BMW cars and motorcycles. Murray purchased his first BMW motorcycle at age 16 and later participated in the Alpine Endurance Race. Marilyn and Murray were married in 1975 and in 1976 they rode a BMW motorcycle to Cairns on holidays. In 1978 they headed overseas and took delivery of a new BMW motorcycle in Germany and toured through Europe and Scandinavia. His current modern vehicle is of course a BMW sedan.

A dedicated family man, Murray was devoted to his wife and family and was very proud of his grandchildren. He was an active member of the One Hope Baptist Church in Highton.

We extend our sympathy to Murray's wife, Marilyn, daughter Felicia, son-in-law Timothy and grandchildren Ethan, Joash and Leah, and also to his brother, club-member Burnie.

*Compiled by Trevor Schneider*

**Wanted: Minute Secretary.** A willing volunteer is urgently needed to take the minutes of the monthly general meetings, now that Leigh Dwyer has retired from the job. To find out more about what the job entails. ask Leigh. To volunteer, contact John Bailey.



# RALLIES & RUNS

## May Mystery Run

The Mystery Run on Sunday 19 May took us through Winchelsea, Inverleigh and then on to Bannockburn for a pub lunch.

Coral Nicholson and I won the raffle, and she invested her winnings in a magnificent fried cheese cake - with ice cream, berries and lord knows what else. Had enough sugar to kill a horse! The third photo shows what was left on her plate! (Not really – Coral asked for a “doggy bag”.) Another enjoyable day out.

- Geoff Lenton



## Werribee Club Run

Libby Booley sent in these photos from the April Club Run to visit the Werribee club.



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.



## The Crossley Story (ctd)

Contemporary newspaper reports suggest that nine were sold in the Eastern states.

The Perth Sunday Times of June 1927 reported that three of the cars were sold by the Perth agents, Coventry Motor Co Ltd."

Another was sold by Messrs Skurric Bros. to Mr Angus McDonald of Mount Ararat, Victoria. (The Horsham Times, June 1927 )

The National Museum in Canberra has a Royal Tour landaulette. It is believed to be the only one still with its original matching engine and chassis numbers and one of only five surviving "Canberra" model limousines. The cars were designated "Canberra" by Crossley following their success on the Royal Tour. (from an article in the Vintage Motor Club of Sydney Bulletin) [VMC Bulletin Articles - VINTAGE MOTOR CLUB, Sydney, NSW, Australia](#)

*The 1926 Royal Crossley Landaulette "Canberra" is now housed at the National Museum*



**A 1926 Model 18/50hp Crossley type 1L Landaulette 'Canberra' car. Technical specifications include: a 6-cylinder overhead-valve, a 3.8 litre, 2692cc engine; 69mm bore, 120mm stroke cylinder block; a 4-speed gearbox; and 4-wheel drum brakes.**

Ministry of Finance reports suggest that, as well as this fleet, other vehicles were needed for the tour retinue:

"The Commission's Assistant Chief Engineer, William Elmhurst Potts, and Industrial Officer J McDowell were responsible for arranging official cars. This involved housing of 12 Crossley cars, with Royal Australian Air Force chauffeurs brought to Canberra for transporting the Royal Party, including Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Stonehouse and suite; hire of 12 Crossley cars for transport of state governors, their wives and suites and representatives of governments of overseas dominions; provision of eight Armstrong-Siddeley cars for transport of Commonwealth ministers and wives, the President of the Senate and Lady Newlands, the Honourable Speaker of the House of Representatives and Lady Groom; provision of five commission buses and five hired buses for the transport of more than 500 guests; hire of 18 cars for transport of naval, military and air force units, police and press representatives; and provision of eight Commission cars for general work associated with the event." Source: [COMCAR-two.pdf \(finance.gov.au\)](#)

*A big thank you to both Simon and Harold for their responses. As the detail of the 1927 royal tour shows, it doesn't take much to prompt a trip down an historical rabbit hole. - Ed.*

## FOR SALES, WANTED & CLUES

### For Sale

**For Sale: For Sale 1947 Morris 8 E series**



2 door sedan. VIN 119722. \$12,000.ono.  
Call Ron 0425 890 346.

5/24

### For Sale

**"In house" Garage Sale at the June meeting.**

Offering a range of quality gear for sale to members on behalf of Coral Nicholson.

Items include good quality electrical and hand tools; 2 large heavy duty canvas tarps; jars of screws, nuts and bolts; and fishing gear.

Call John 0413 258 302.

5/24

### Clues

#### Restoration Recommendation

I have just had a pair of Rotax brass sidelights repaired by Legato of Reservoir. The workmanship is excellent, and the lamps look better than new. I can thoroughly recommend this company. Legato Australia was established in approximately 1946. Since that time, they have been Australia's leading repair and manufacturing facility for brass and woodwind musicians, and for pipe bands. Their fully qualified Master repairers and Heads of Department each have over 40 years' experience in their fields, and as such are regarded by many as Australia's leading repairers of choice.

They specialise in the repair of brass and woodwind instruments, as well as the repair and restoration of brass work for veteran and vintage automobiles.

The Company is located at 1 Parer Street, Reservoir, Vic 3073. Phone: 03 9460 2244  
Supplied by Dave Jenkins

Contributed by Graham Peacock.

From the August 2021 edition of the Vintage Drivers Club mag.

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](mailto: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](mailto:webmaster@wdhvcgeelong.com) (Ph 0418 587 415).

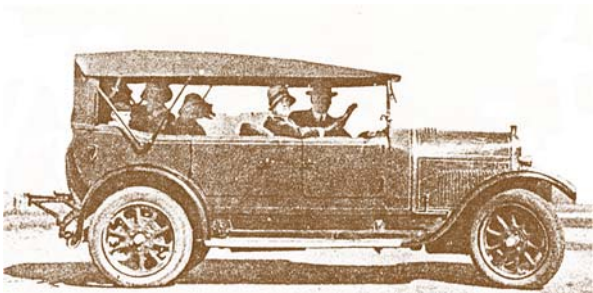
If undeliverable return to:

**WDHVC**  
**PO Box 200**  
**Newcomb VIC 3219**

Backfire

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 PPN 1000/19091

POSTAGE  
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 AUSTRALIA



**1926 Crossley**

**June 2024 at a glance** (details Page 9)

| Sunday   | Monday                         | Tuesday                        | Wednesday              | Thursday   | Friday                                    | Saturday |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|----------|
| 26<br>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. | 27                             | 28                             | 29                     | 30   | 31 May<br><b>Backfire Folding Morning</b> | 1        |
| 2  | 3                              | 4                              | 5                      | 6<br>Coffee Run.<br>10 am<br>The Paddock Bakery      | 7   | 8        |
| 9<br>Maldon Swap   | 10                             | 11<br>General Meeting 7.30pm   | 12<br>Dine Out 6pm RSL | 13   | 14  | 15       |
| 16   | 17                             | 18<br>Committee Meeting 7.30pm | 19                     | 20<br>Tinker Day Scotsburn                           | 21  | 22       |
| 23   | 24<br><b>Backfire Deadline</b> | 25<br>7pm Tech Night "Brakes"  | 26                     | 27   | 28<br><b>Backfire Folding Morning</b>     | 29       |
| 30<br>Casserole Day 12 noon Clubrooms<br><br>Fridge Swap   | 1 July                         | 2                              | 3                      | 4 July<br>Coffee Run.<br>Common Ground Project 10 am | 5   | 6        |