

RACV 2020 NATIONAL VETERAN VEHICLE RALLY

11th to 17th October 2020

**Newsletter — No 2
March 2020**

SWAN HILL

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Rally to the Mallee

We are now down to 7 months, 3 days, 11 hours and 23 minutes. But who's counting? Although the entries are not yet open, **known accommodation bookings now sit at 152 rooms**. Entries will open in April. This is getting scary.

It's going to be BIG

Introducing our Totally On-Line Entry System

To efficiently manage the expected number of entries, we are implementing a totally on-line registration system. Entrants will be able to lodge their entry on-line, via the VCCA (Vic) website, select their Hospitality and Activity options and pay via Visa/Mastercard, EFT or cheque.

Full (and simple) instructions will be in the April Newsletter and sent to all Expressions of Interest respondents. They will also be accessible through TAVCCA member clubs.

A telephone help desk (in Australia) will be available, providing I am not under the Cadillac, for anyone who needs a hand.

The system will be as easy to use as our on-line Expressions of Interest registration which has now been utilised by over 175 interested enthusiasts.

Not only simplifying rally entry for participants, the system will streamline the entry administration by reporting contact details, passenger names for lanyards, catering numbers and tracking dietary requirements etc. etc.

In this edition:

- It's going to be BIG
- On-line Registration
- How can a 156 km day be 1&2 friendly?
- Catalina Flying Boat Museum
- Accommodation Update
- Kids rally free
- Motorcycles are Welcome

Dates to Remember

April 2020 — Newsletter No 3

Entries and activity/meal options are being finalised but will not be open until April. All entries will be collected via our on-line system.

June 2020—Newsletter No 4

August 14, 2020 — Closing date for entries.

How can a 156 km day be 1&2 Friendly?

We have been trumpeting this event as 1&2 cylinder, steam car and motorcycle friendly. By far, our longest day is a 156 kilometre round trip to Murrabit, Koondrook, Barham and Benjeroop and then back to Swan Hill.

Although the roads are flat, this may be a big ask for some of the smaller vehicles and their drivers. **We have the solution!**

We will all start together and tour to

morning tea at Murrabit. For those who prefer, we will guard their veteran in Murrabit while they hitch a swaggie ride in another bigger veteran to lunch at Barham.

A minor detour from the return route will see them re-united with their vehicle to continue the homeward run via Benjeroop to Swan Hill, thereby cutting the total distance to a more manageable (and perhaps enjoyable) 112 kilometres.

It will be worth the entry fee alone just to visit country towns with names like:

- **Koondrook**
- **Tooleybuc**
- **Murrabit &**
- **Benjeroop**

Catalina Flying Boat Museum

A stand out highlight of this event will be our visit to the Lake Boga Catalina Museum.

After the Japanese attack on Broome in 1941, Lake Boga was established as the No. 1 RAAF Flying Boat Repair Depot. 416 aircraft were serviced with works ranging from repairs of operational damage to complete overhauls.



The museum houses the famous A24-30 Catalina Flying Boat as well as a magnificent collection and display of WWII artefacts and memorabilia. The restored underground communications bunker is a must see and the start-up of the Rolls Royce Merlin engine is a must hear. We will do both. The theatre continuously screens a 20 minute video that reveals the entire history.

To afford the best access to the museum our rally will be split into two groups, visiting on alternate days.

Kids Rally Free

We all know kids cost a fortune – but not on this rally.

At the Rally to the Mallee, the cost of all listed meals and activities for under 16 year old entrants will be \$0.00. This follows a recent decision by the Victorian committee to reduce the cost of our events on families.

So, load up your veteran with kids and save a fortune!

Motorcycles are Most Welcome

The terrain around Swan Hill is perfect for 1 and 2 cylinder vehicles and, of course, this includes veteran motor cycles.

BONUS OFFER FOR MOTORCYCLE RIDERS

To encourage members to enter with their two wheeled veterans we will include a tube of Zo Rub Anti Chafing Cream in all motorcycle rally bags.



Accommodation Update

Entrants are advised to phone and **book directly with the property**. This is the preferred method as you may miss out on any negotiated discounts, being made aware of all the options of room configurations and the opportunity to take up any cancellations.

Be aware the 2 suggested motels have been chosen after assessing almost every motel property in Swan Hill.

Although budget motels, they are clean and provide basic facilities, have ample parking and security from passing traffic.

Other properties may offer 4 or 4 1/2 star facilities but be sure to check any parking limitations (e.g. 1 car per room) and exposure of your veteran to street traffic.

BIG4 RIVERSIDE	Lazy River Motor Inn	BIG 4 Swan Hill	Pioneer Station Motor Inn
Rally Headquarters	1.9 kilometres from HQ all in the 60 kph speed zone	1.9 kilometres from HQ all in the 60 kph speed zone	On the edge of the CBD. 1.3 Kilometres from HQ
Cabins fully booked. Powered and un-powered sites available	Motel rooms still available but be quick. .	Cabins fully booked. Powered and un-powered sites available	More than 14 rooms available but are filling fast.
Call direct on 1800 101 012	Call direct on (03) 5032 2123 www.lazyrivermotorinn.com.au	Call direct on 1800 990 389	Call direct on (03) 5032 2017 www.pioneerstation.com.au