



Brass Notes

DEMENTIA PRODEST

JANUARY 2019

The journal of the VETERAN CAR CLUB of AUSTRALIA (Vic.)

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WWW.VETERANCARCLUB.ORG.AU

President's Message

A Very Happy New Year...

The Committee joins with me in wishing our members, their families and our many friends in the historic motoring movement a very happy New Year and our best wishes for 2019. We have a packed calendar, and there is also a wonderful variety of events available to us from our kindred clubs around Australia. The Rally Directors for our three signature RACV events have put together another round of outstanding touring – we'll be going to Bright, Inverloch and Wangaratta. In addition there will be the 'Four or More' at Corowa, plus the Pre-05 Pioneer Rally at Ballarat held over the National

Motoring Heritage Day weekend in May. This year the Nationals will be held in Queensland and we will again be hosting our popular Victorian Dinner – a night, that I initiated at Clare, SA in 2017, and has grown over the past two years to be an evening not to be missed. Our Natter Nights are attracting a good turn out of members and we have a diverse line-up of speakers as well as a movie night with 'Tucker, the man and his dream' screening at the Clubrooms in June. We are thrilled that our membership continues to grow, and we especially welcome to our 2019 events members who have joined the Club during the past year.

Monthly Library Luncheon Group Commences...

Daryl Meek, our convenor for the Library and Archives is thrilled to get a luncheon group together that will meet monthly at the Clubrooms between 12.00 – 2.00pm on the last Tuesday of the month, beginning January, 2019. As well as the social aspect, Daryl will be assisted by the group in cataloguing and entering data into our new cataloguing system which will be compatible to the NSW's Veteran Car Club's extensive collection. The goal is to create a national data base of the Australian Veteran movement's libraries. Daryl welcomes all members and friends to the luncheon group.

Rare Model T Ford Coupelet for Auction...

Up for auction at Mecum's Auction, Kissimmee, Florida on January 3 – 13, 2019 is a 1909 Ford Model T Coupe which is believed to be the only surviving example known to exist in the American Club or the International Model T Club. There were only 47 produced in 1909, and the model – although quirky by today's standards – never took off. It was produced during the veteran era of the Model T, and examples rarely come on the market.

In 'The Developing Model T', Bruce McCalley writes:

The design of the new Model T began in 1907 and by early 1908 working models were being assembled.



1909 Model T Ford Coupelet for auction at Mecum

No doubt many of the components of these pre-production cars were adapted from the then-current Models N and S.

These cars had one hand lever which controlled the transmission (low, neutral, and high gears), and three pedals. The pedals were for reverse, the transmission brake, and the rear-wheel brakes...

Proof positive that the T was well on its way in early 1908 can be found in a letter from James Couzens to Henry Ford, dated February 18, 1908. In that letter Couzens wrote: Orders are coming in good shape. In fact, we received orders for forty-eight from London this morning and have orders for about twenty-five

Coming Events

20 January 2019	Great Australia Rally - Cruden Farm Contact: entryEGAR@abccc.com.au
12 February 2019	Natter Night – Welcome BBQ and Show & Tell BBQ from 6pm – meeting at 8pm
24 February 2019	RACV British & European Motoring Show Yarra Glen Racecourse
24 March 2019	Kalorama Rally
25-28 April 2019	2019 Annual "4 & More" Rally, Corowa. NSW Contacts: David Lang T: 03 5881 2492, Don McPherson M: 0412 851 325
18–19 May 2019	Pre 1905 Pioneers Rally – Ballarat Rally Director: Greg Smith

Major Events

14 - 17 March 2019	RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally - Bright Contact: John Stanley 0409 001 836
18 - 19 May 2019	Pre 1905 Pioneer's Rally, Ballarat - TAVCCA National Event Contact Greg Smith: 0447 395 233
19-21 July 2019	RACV Mid Winter Rally – Inverloch Rally Director: Ben Alcock 0404 917 366

National Events

10 - 15 March 2019	National Veteran Motorcycle Rally - Ulverstone Tasmania Contact: Greg Smith 0447 395 233
22 – 26 April 2019	National Brush Rally 2019 – Goolwa, SA Hamish McDonald: brushownersregister@gmail.com
17 – 23 September 2019	National Veteran Rally – Bargara (Bundaberg, QLD) Rally2019@skymesh.com.au
29 Sep – 5 Oct 2019	National High Wheeler Rally – Castlemaine, VIC Contact: Greg Smith 0447 395 233
11th – 17th October 2020	National Veteran Vehicle Rally - Swan Hill, VIC Contact: Michael and Claudia Holding 0407 008 895

International Events

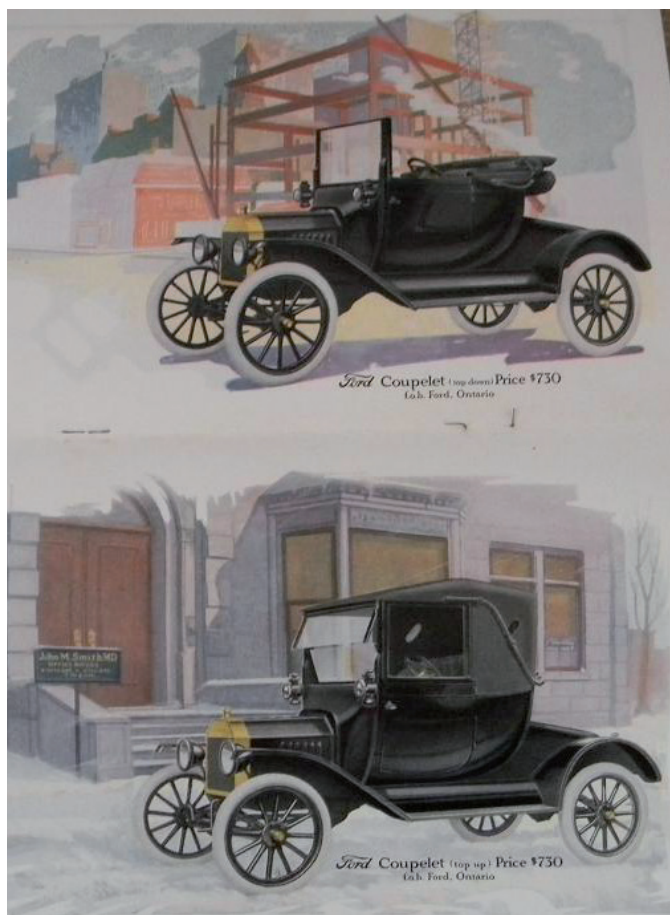
30 Aug - 6 Sep 2019	HCCA International Tour Entries now open - Russell Holden: 0422 219 911
29 Sept – 5 Oct 2019	Model T Ford Annual Rally 2019 Maryborough, QLD www.mtop12.wix.com/mtoq

President's Message

from Paris, to say nothing of the orders for domestic shipments which are coming in quite rapidly. I must admit, however, that things don't look very bright for the new car getting out very early... In the first year of production (October 1908 to October 1909) 7,728 Tourings, 2,351 Roadsters, 47 Coupes, 236 Town Cars, and 208 Landaulets were produced. (Only two more Landaulets were made in 1910 and that style was dropped from the line). The Coupes were never very popular in the early years. Just 299 were produced during the 1909-1912 period. None were made until the introductions of the Coupelet in late 1914...

The 1909 Model year began production on October 1, 1908 through to July 31, 1909. The body styles were Touring, Laundalet (Taximeter Cab), Town Car, Roadster, Couplet, and Chassis. The colours available were: Touring Red, Green, Roadster Grey, Coupe Green, Town Car Green. Factory options available: Windshield (open cars) top/roof (open cars), gas headlights, Prestolite cartridge tank, tire chains, robe rail, speedometer, clock. The Model T proved to have much greater acceptance than Henry Ford had predicted. 25,000 were produced by June 1910 and over the next few years it became the world's most popular car.

In May 2015, a 1916 example sold on Ebay for US\$60,000. Another example is a Canadian Catalogue of 1915 – selling in those days for \$730.



1915 Model T Coupelet

Old Friends at Bendigo Swap...

Thanks to Ben and Deb Alcock for organising the Bendigo Swap table and display this year. Both Ben and Deb were somewhat 'worn out' after organising the RACV Annual Rally at Cape Schanck, yet still made the effort to 'fly the flag' for the Club at Bendigo. We have again booked the site, and Ben is already working on a bigger and better display with additional seating and hospitality for our members at the next swap.



L-R Paul Daley, Peter Johnson, Alan Long



Ralph Provan with Deb Alcock catch up over a cuppa



David 'T' Lang, Deb Alcock, Ben Alcock and Ann Drysdale (V.D.C)

President's Message

Bendigo Swap... another year of sub-par facilities...

Bendigo Swap seems to have lost none of its attraction! Even though we all seem to gracefully age, the valuable 'rust' seems to draw the 'old timers' back each year. Well, maybe age does weary some... the toilet facilities of a bygone era... the long queues for a shower... the men's toilets on the tray of an old truck... it seems that it really is time for some up to date toilets and bathrooms. Interestingly the Swap was held on the same Saturday that Victoria voted – and there was not a politician in site when I visited. It seems that the motoring movement counts for nothing on their watch. But then, if you don't ask you don't receive. The fishing lobby received millions, the Vietnam Veterans correctly received millions, the camping and 4WD lobby got \$105 million – in fact it seemed all you needed to do before the election was make a noise and the benefits flowed. Where was the lobbying from the historic motoring movement? Obviously our 'peak bodies' were nowhere to be seen or heard when it came to electoral clout.

It is time for them to place on the agenda for 2019 the need for a single effective voice that can lobby and effect change for the historic motoring movement.

Service Your Medicine Cabinet



With the good weather and the 2019 Rally calendar packed with choices all over the nation, many participants have a kit that includes additional medication. Here's some handy advice: The most neglected area in the average home is the medicine cabinet, – it's often a case of 'out of sight, out of mind.' There are millions of unwanted and expired medicines sitting in homes across Australia. Many of us hold on to these purely because we don't know how to get rid of them!

Four tips on keeping your medicine cabinet in a safe and environmentally friendly way:

1. Read, remove and return

First, read the labels and expiry dates. While expired medicines generally aren't harmful, they're possibly less effective. Once you've determined what you no longer need, remove them and place them into a container or bag. Then, rather than throwing them in the bin, return them properly by taking them to your local pharmacy for safe disposal.

2. Play it safe

If a medicine is no longer in its original container and you can't remember what it is, don't try to play the guessing game. Instead, play it safe and put it in your 'remove' pile.

3. Don't mix and match

While it's tempting to put multiple medicines in the same container to save space, this is definitely not a safe practise. Not only does it make it harder to locate your medicine when you need it, accidental medicine mix-ups can also be seriously dangerous.

4. Rethink your storage

When it comes to your medicine supply, location is everything. You'll want to avoid keeping it in your bathroom, as the humidity from the shower can speed up the expiry of your medicines. It's best to keep them in a cool, dry place – ideally in an airtight container, and ALWAYS out of reach from children.

You can find out more about Return Unwanted Medicines (The RUM Project) here (<http://www.returnmed.com.au/>)

Mates since childhood...



James Dunshea and Ben Alcock

James Dunshea and Ben Alcock have been best mates for as long as they can remember, and when it comes to veteran motoring James says: 'I was born into it – I was evidently only six months old when I went on my first rally!' James recalls being passed from car to car as a little fellow... a couple of hours in each car kept him amused. The guys made quite a fashion statement at the Orange Overland event in matching formal attire, complete with Black Tailcoats. Both have been active on our Committee and both are committed to building and promoting 'Next Generation' events which interact and work with other motoring clubs. Social Media plays an important role with this generation and together with Callum Walsh from the Social Media and 'Next Generation' sub Committee.

For the Joy of Driving...

Ian Berg has an eye for those special news items relevant to our movement. The online Classic Cars Journal reports that the US Insurance and vehicle

valuation company Hagerty, have commissioned a survey 'Why Driving Matters', and will hold a series of town hall meetings about driving in an autonomous automotive age.

'Long thought to be less interested in vehicle ownership and driving, 81 percent of millennial drivers taking part in the nationwide survey said they like, love or are passionate about driving', according to a nationwide survey commissioned by Hagerty, the insurance and vehicle valuation company. That same survey found that only 78 percent of Gen Xers and 79 percent of Baby Boomers said they like, loved or were passionate about driving.

Among the survey findings:

- 85 percent of all respondents said driving is an important part of American culture
- 81 percent said learning to drive is a rite of passage worth preservation
- 70 percent said driving is 'time for myself.'
- 71 percent said driving often is fun and 61 percent said it often is a positive emotional experience, while 59 percent said driving is a form of stress release
- 77 percent agreed they'd rather be driving themselves on open, winding roads

Regarding autonomous vehicles, more than 85 percent of all respondents said they want the option of driving a car themselves and 79 percent said they were not willing to see that option unavailable in autonomous vehicles. Based on the survey results, Hagerty said it is launching a 'Why Driving Matters' initiative 'to organise and amplify the voices of car lovers when it comes to future driving laws. It's clear people don't want to lose the joy, freedom and control that comes with having their hands on the wheel.

The Big Question?



1915 – Edsel Ford with some pals on his cross USA trip

Q: Whose untimely death would you most like to reverse?

The 'Atlantic' magazine popped this question back in September '18, and there were some contrasting nominations.

Here's just a few: *Mozart* (35), *Schubert* (31) and *Mendelssohn* (38) the trifecta of brilliant composers who died before we call them middle aged. *Abraham Lincoln* and *James Garfield* - both Presidents were assassinated leaving an unfinished legacy. In 1968 a twofer: *Martin Luther King Jr* and *Robert F Kennedy* – while on the popular front *Buddy Holly* (22) and *Walt Disney* would be amazed at today's zany world.

This list of course is endless, but let me select a name from our history of the automobile. My nomination is *Edsel Ford* (49), the only son of Clara and Henry Ford, who in his twenties was keen to develop cars more exciting than the Model T – viz Model A in 1927.

Like many headstrong sons, he often disagreed with his father on major decisions, and bore the brunt of public humiliation. He died of metastatic stomach cancer and undulant fever. His legacy remains with his residence, *The Edsel and Eleanor Ford House* open to the public with its excellent collection of the Ford's antiques and art.

The Ford Edsel car, which bore his name, was released in 1958, and production ceased two years later. The venture saw Ford Motor Company blow \$250 million on this so called car of the future – it even had its own TV special '*The Edsel Show*'. But the car was a flop (or even a lemon), and was not as futuristic as the hype.

A well preserved example was on display at the Mustang day at the Ford World Headquarters when I attended recently. The futuristic automatic gear selection was a push-button setup in the centre of the steering wheel.



Paul Daley with the Edsel Ford automobile – seen on display in Detroit – the car was a flop



Futuristic gear selection 'push button'

President's Message

Gentlemen, start the revival...

So read the headline of a nine page feature in 'American Way' the magazine of American Airlines that caught my eye on a recent flight from Nashville to Los Angeles. The nine page feature told the story of TROG – The Race of Gentlemen, which is held for pre 1941 vehicles on the Sandy beach of Wildwood, New Jersey. The article opens with 'Engines roar, vintage motorcycles churn up the sand and the briny sea air is thick with the smell of gas and oil'. And so the scene is set to introduce the old car hobby to the travelling public. This type of publicity is prime gold for promoting the motoring movement! In fact 'Hemmings Daily put this spin on the event. *'The Race of Gentlemen is one of the saviours – if not the saviour – of our old car hobby and not just America, but maybe the whole damn world. That's one helluva bold statement. But TROG really is that important. Like it or not, and with the possible exception of the Goodwood Revival in England. There is currently no other vintage automotive event on the planet with the same degree of visibility, vitality, and impact, where old iron is actually being used as a living part of peoples lives'*, so writes Daniel Beaudry on June 15, 2018. Of course, we understand the generational difference of veteran and vintage cars – but to the general public they're simply 'old cars' – and normally 'vintage', as it seems one size fits all, yes, veteran included. But the real importance of this publicity is to promote the importance of our hobby – in all its shapes and sizes and wonders – to the broad community. To further promote our Club, Callum Walsh has taken on the responsibility of Publicity and Communication, and I have specifically asked Callum to focus on diversifying our reach to community groups with the message that the old car hobby is affordable and accessible.



Engines roar as they churn up the sand!

Matchbox celebrates 65 years of production.

Many members will have fond childhood memories of birthday and Christmas surprises that included a Matchbox toy car. For some, it may have been the spark that lit their interest in historic motoring in future years. The Matchbox name began back in 1953,

when two unrelated guys – Leslie Smith and Rodney Smith – produced from their Lesney foundry a model of Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation Coach. And the rest is history, with countless members of a diverse range of Matchbox cars delighting kiddies, and frustrating parents spending their idle moments cleaning up scattered toys in the home and yard. Early model cars were roughly 1:76 scale (or 00 scale for model train enthusiasts), and unlike crude copies of their product, Matchbox offered crisp tooling, smooth opening parts and detail. By the late 1950's the range had expanded to 75 models, and by the 1960's more than a million a week were sold, which inspired competition from the likes of Impy and Husky brands. To celebrate **Matchbox's 65th Anniversary in 2018**, no fewer than 46 castings came out – the oldest being a 1933 Plymouth police sedan. Regretfully, no veteran era cars were listed this release.



A 1953 Lesney Matchbox Ford Zodiac Convertible on Ebay for \$32

Begonia Rally...

Bruce Kerr from the Vintage and Classic Car Club Ballarat, invites members to attend the 48th Begonia Rally to be held Friday 15th to Sunday 17th February 2019:

'This year we will be returning to the Greyhound Track at Morshead Park as our Rally Headquarters, and we have secured our successful catering team once again. We look forward to seeing familiar faces from past years, and to welcoming new entrants for the first time. Plans are well advanced, and shaping up to have lots to see and do, as well as allowing time for you to spend catching up on old friendships, and/or making new ones. We are working hard with our sponsors and supporters to keep this event affordable to ensure it remains part of your annual calendar. The Rally is open to all veteran, vintage and classic motor cycles, cars and trucks.'

Forbes Men's Shed In Action

It was *Bill McFeeter* who introduced Forbes National Rally Director John Burke to the team of blokes at the Forbes Men's Shed back when he was planning the 2018 National Rally. The guys performed the essential job of putting out the signs each day for the run – and collecting them afterwards. The Shed is a focal point for many with an age range of 14 – 92 and 'tries' to help all in their Community. I caught up with Norm Haley and Ian Partington while they took a break in the shade at Grenfell. The rally covered all their fuel expenses for the vehicle during the event. In the big picture, the Forbes shed has benefited from \$600,000 from State and Federal grants, and the guys have also raised \$90,000 for the facilities.



Norm Haley and Ian Partington put out the Tour signs

Water, Water Everywhere!

John Stanley's email immediately caught my attention – he was bringing me up to date with the latest on the 2019 RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally at Bright. The Rally is set to feature four steam cars – a 1904 Grout from QLD, as well as Locomobiles and Stanleys – and to keep them fired up John has had to have a 1000 litre water tank strategically placed. Entry forms have already been distributed, and they are also available for download from our website. Numbers are building with all States now represented and there is still plenty of accommodation available.

Library and Archives Report...

Daryl Meek informed the Committee recently that he had purchased a book for the Club's library about Henry Sutton. Mr Sutton was born in Ballarat and in 1899 designed and built one of Australia's first cars (called the Sutton Autocar) and in 1903 co-founded the RACV. The library is a wonderful resource and members are encouraged to enjoy such treasures as 'Petroleum Motor-Cars' that was written by Louis Lockert and published in 1898.

Latest on AOMC...

Andrew McDougall attended the November AOMC delegates meeting and AGM held on Monday 26th November 2018 at the Jaguar/Austin Healey Clubrooms. Andrew highlighted the following meeting outcomes to your Committee:

- The AOMC car shows for 2019 (British & European Motoring Show, American Motoring Show, Aussie Motoring Show, National Motoring Heritage Day).
- The guest speaker was Greg Cahill, Kids Under Cover, an organisation that is aimed at preventing youth homelessness.
- Annual General Meeting – the following were elected unopposed and the committee remains pretty much unchanged. President Keith Mortimer; Vice-President Iain Ross; Secretary no nomination; Treasurer Angelo D'Ambrosio.

This Edition of Brass Notes...

This edition of Brass Notes is distributed to all members electronically and will not be printed and mailed. Normal production will resume with the February edition.

The first Natter Night for 2019 will be on Tuesday February 12, beginning with a BBQ at 6:00pm.

*Yours in Veteran Motoring,
Paul R Daley,
President*

NATTER NIGHT

February 12, 2019



6.00pm at the Clubrooms with refreshments - we supply everything for a great start for the year

8.00pm - Natter Night

with Daryl Meek & Fiona Lane presenting their popular



feel free to bring something of interest to show as well!



Torquay Rotary Club Community Fundraiser

Torquay Motor Show

on the Torquay Foreshore
Sunday 10th Feb 2019

More Info & Entry Forms ..

torquaymotorshow.com.au Ph: 0423 620 009



Kids Free !!!



RACV

RACV British & European Motoring Show 2019



Open to all vehicles manufactured in England and Europe

Featuring the annual MG Club Concours

Celebrating 70 years of the Rover P4 75

60 years of the Daimler SP250 Dart,

Austin/Morris Mini, Jaguar MK2,

50 years of the Ford Capri MK1, Triumph TR6

Mercedes Benz 280SE 3.5,

40 years of the SAAB 900Turbo



Display cars \$15.00

(inc. all occupants)

Motorbikes \$10.00

(inc. passenger)

Display vehicles or

motorbikes driven by

L or P drivers

may enter free.

Spectators \$8.00

RACV Members \$5.00

Children free

Sunday 24th February 2019

Yarra Glen Racecourse, Armstrong Avenue, Yarra Glen

Childrens Entertainment, Music, Trophies, Club Displays & Vendors

Gates Open for Display Cars at 9.00am & Spectators at 10.00am

For more info contact 03 9558 4829 www.aomc.asn.au/britishandeuropean2019 fb.com/infoaomc

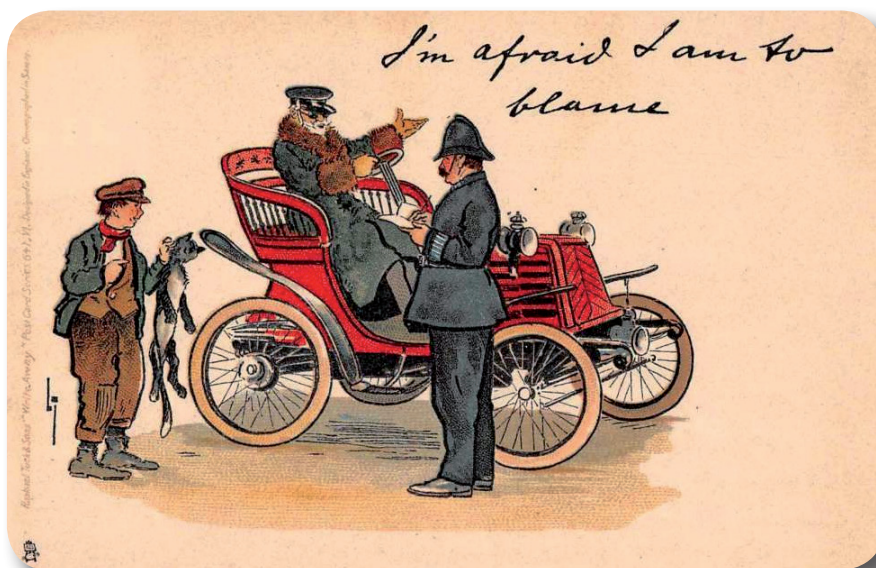
A little humour goes a long way...

...but it's no laughing matter when you're fresh out of ideas for that elusive gift. May we suggest an alternative for that adult family member or special friend?

Consider giving them a Gift Membership to the Veteran Car Club of Australia (Victoria).

Simply download the Membership Application Form from our website, complete the details, send the form to us with your payment and request us to send it as a gift from you.

Tell us if you wish this to be an ongoing arrangement and we'll do the rest! We will send them a letter advising them of your kindness.



The Veteran Car Club of Australia (Vic) Inc PO Box 2300, Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149