

April 2019



Brass Notes

www.veterancarclub.org.au

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



Dementia Prodest

Veteran Car Club of Australia (Victoria) Inc.
Registration Number A0097964Y

Patron: Ms Netta Griffin, President, RACV

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Flashback

This month our FLASHBACK photo features a Delauney-Belleville at an early rally. The sign on the building in the background surely doesn't refer to veteran car drivers! But who, where and when relate to this photo?

Respond to the editor.



Graeme Chard recognised his T Ford in the February FLASHBACK photo and provided the following comments.

I will say Greg Smith has done some good detective work regarding the T Ford in the February FLASHBACK photo. In Jan 1990 I had only recently purchased the 1916 T-Ford and I think it was the first Club run that I took the car on to go to the Hermitage. It was a sunny day and I do recall putting the hood down for the journey home. These days the side mirror is different to the one in the picture.

The one thing that would 100% confirm it is my car but I could not make out in picture is it has rare de-mountable rims. This aside I would say it is my car and I still have it today.

Peter Crauford has provided some interesting information on the Vinot & Deguingand in the March *Brass Notes* FLASHBACK photo;

'Some 40 years ago I heard of a fellow near Bendigo who owned two interesting veteran cars. I was living in South Australia and some months later when on my way to Sydney I called in to see him. His name was Innes and the family were, and still are, motor car dealers in Bendigo. Mr Innes lived in a then new house on the Inglewood Road. He took me to his new shed/garage alongside his house and showed me his 2 veteran tourers, a Rover and a Vinot & Deguingand. He told me that he had rallied both cars but was told by the then president not to bring them to a rally until they were restored! He was extremely put out by these instructions and never rallied them again. They were lovely complete and original cars.'

'I had always wondered what became of them and after moving from Western Victoria to the Macedon Ranges late last year I resolved to find them if possible. I found the house without much difficulty although whereas the house stood alone years ago, it was now amongst lots of houses. There were lots of child's toys, small bikes etc. at the house and no one was at home but I realised that the house had changed hands! Eventually I found an Innes family member who told me that both cars had been sold overseas years ago. I imagine this is the Vinot pictured in *Brass Notes*.'



The RACV is the principal sponsor of the Veteran Car Club of Australia (Victoria) Inc.

The RACV supports the:

- RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally
- RACV Midwinter Rally
- RACV Veteran Car Club Annual Rally

Coming Events

9 April 2019	Natter Night – 8pm Club rooms - ANZAC Theme Guest Speaker: Wing Commander Robin Page (Rtd)
19 April 2019	Good Friday Hot Cross Bun Run Braeside Park, Rosella Oval, Lower Dandenong Road
25-28 April 2019	2019 Four & More Rally, Corowa. NSW Contacts: David Lang T: 03 5881 2492, Don McPherson M: 0412 851 325
27 April 2019	RACV Florence Thomson Tour RACV Cobram Resort
30 April 2019	Luncheon Group, Club rooms 12 – 3 Daryl Meek
17-19 May 2019	43rd Historic Winton - Benalla (Vic) www.historicwinton.org
18-19 May 2019	2019 Pre-1905 Pioneers Run – Ballarat Rally Director: Greg Smith 0447 395 233

Major Events

18 - 19 May 2019	Pre 1905 Pioneer's Rally, Ballarat - TAVCCA National Event Contact Greg Smith: 0447 395 233
19-21 July 2019	2019 RACV Midwinter Rally – Inverloch Rally Director: Ben Alcock 0404 917 366
12 -15 March 2020	RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally - Hamilton (Vic) Rally Director: Doug Palmer

National Events

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 – Maryborough, VIC Contact: Greg Smith 0447 395 233
11th – 17th October 2020	RACV 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

Front Cover: Bright is well known as a cycling destination and in March our Rally Director John Stanley also made it the destination for the very successful RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally. It was great to see the different modes of transport mixing it up for the enjoyment of everyone. The car is a 1903 curved dash Oldsmobile entered by John Day from Queensland. (Photo by John Holt)

President's Message

By Paul Daley

Good Friday Hot Cross Bun Run

Our Club is hosting this year's Hot Cross Bun run to Braeside Park on Good Friday (April 19), and *Ben Alcock* will be leading the team serving tea and coffee and 'hot' cross buns.

The event has traditionally been a 'Tri Club' function i.e VCCA (Vic), VDC, and CHACA, and this year we welcome the Austin 7 Club, who are excited to join the day. Radio 88.3 Southern FM has agreed to broadcast the event, and will also be mentioning the event on air in the weeks leading up to it, and it is hoped that this publicity will result in more people seeing the display cars.

Paul Goethel from the Austin 7 Club is organising this promotion, and all the participating clubs share similar values and objectives – the organisation of the event is rotated and the Austin 7 Club will have their turn in the future. We will also have the gold coin collection for the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Let's have a special effort from Club members to join in this event - veteran or modern are welcome - it's a wonderful start to the Easter Holiday.

RACV British & European Motoring Show

The Yarra Glen Racecourse was the picturesque setting for this year's RACV British & European Motoring Show (February 24), and the grounds showcased a superb cross-section of automobiles. For many clubs the event is one of the highlights of their calendar and their members take attendance at the event seriously.

The MG Car Club had an outstanding display of nearly 300 cars, all efficiently marshalled by their officials in high viz and displayed in their registers, beginning with the 1923-30 pre-war crew.

I caught up with *Robin Page*, a great friend of our Club, and who will be our special guest speaker at our ANZAC themed April Natter Night. Robin was the MG President 2012-13 and today is the convenor of the Pre-War Register.

Busy in the AOMC Marquee was *Graeme Moody* VCCA (Vic), *Iain Ross*, *Daryl McMahon* and *Keith Mortimer* (AOMC President), as well as our *Daryl Meek* busy in his capacity with the RACV. Strolling the show, I met a passing parade of members – *John Paas*, *Janet Barlow-Paas*, *Michael Paas* walking with their friendly dog, *Mark McKibbin* came in his 1925 Lancia Lambda, *Stan* and *Maggie Bone* were accompanied by *Ben Alcock* and *James Dunshea* in their FN.

Stan is well on the way with restoring another FN – a 1500cc Roadster, and will soon post photos on Facebook. *Peter Latrielle* was seen arriving in his trusty vintage Vauxhall, *Ian Berg* and *Alastair Berg* arrived in style in the 1921 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost. Also seen were *Gordon Berg* 1993 Saab 900, and *Peter Macbeth*, *Jenson Interceptor*.



Iain Ross (VDC) and Keith Mortimer (AOMC)



MG Car Club's impressive lineup



Bentleys... the old and new



Janet Barlow-Paas, Michael Paas, and John Paas



Daryl Meek at the RACV Stand

Automotive Historians Australia Inc...

The RMIT School of Design and EMIT Design Archives will host the 4th annual conference of the Automotive Historians Australia. They are seeking contributions of owning, designing, racing, restoring or building an automobile (or motorcycle) – experiences that often rely on tacit knowledge accrued over a long period of time and which remains hidden and never recorded. Similarly, experiences of rallying, time trials, long-distance road trips, the open road are welcome. To bring this knowledge to the fore is an ambition of the conference to be held August 9-10, 2019, and the experiences and knowledge of women in this space are particularly encouraged.

Email – conference@autohistoriansaustralia.org

Our contact at this event is *Daryl Meek*, and at this stage over 40 enthusiasts will be attending.

This will make you smile...

One of the most popular pages in *Brass Notes* is Private Classifieds (p.20). As Robert Louis Stevenson said: "Nothing like a little judicious levity."
FOR SALE - 1909 Delage.

Dept of Fine Dining...

It was back in 2016 in my capacity as Events Director, that I had the job of organising the Good Friday Hot Cross Bun Run, and the assistance of *David and Kath Wright*, together



with many others, who pitched in and helped on the grill toasting the Hot Cross buns, was something I'm eternally grateful for. This year's 'Captain of Hot Cross buns' will be our *Ben Alcock*, and once again on offer will be a range of quality preserves – English marmalade, strawberry jam, apricot conserve, and lashings of margarine / or butter, washed down with tea and coffee. Normally it's difficult to keep up with the rush on tea and coffee, so extra urns will be the order of the day. As for the buns, well they have a special place in the hierarchy of Australian 'cuisine'. It was only two days after last Christmas that Coles had hot cross buns for sale in their supermarkets across the country, and Press Released: 'we sold millions of hot cross buns in January last year and are rapt to be able to offer our customers some new flavours'. Coles will offer traditional fruit, chocolate, apple and cinnamon, and fruit free. Not on offer at our Good Friday cook-up are 'sticky bacon hot cross buns', an unusual (but for some) delicious option. The picture tells it all, and simply pop the crispy bacon with lashings of maple syrup on the toasted buns.

Luncheon group meets...

The Club's luncheon group continues to meet on the last Tuesday of the month, and recent attendees include *Daryl Meek, Kim Coillet, John Prior, John Washbourne, Frances McDougall, Peter Hammet, Barry Smith, Robyn Blackwell, Cliff Ward, and Stan and Maggie Bone*. There has been an enormous amount done to re-organise the library and clean out the storage area. I thank all participants for their assistance in this important role, as our library and archives form an invaluable resource for our Club.

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The committee and members warmly welcome the following new members to the Club.

Phillip and Susan Schudmak from South Yarra. Phillip and Susan own a 1906 Clement and a 1919/20 Sunbeam.

President's Message

By Paul Daley

The Green Book... some background



Paul Daley - "Green Book" display Gilmore Museum

While visiting the Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corner, West Michigan US, I came across a rather confronting display – an African-American mother with her child and the Buick Eight at an ESSO Standard gas station in the 1950's.



Photo Marion Post Wolcott, courtesy Library of Congress

And so began my interest in 'The Green Book' - the black traveller's guide that was first published back in the 1930's. Today, the movie 'Green Book' is headline news taking out on February 24 (controversially) the coveted Best Picture award at this year's Oscars. 'Green Book' followed the (reportedly true) story



The movie "Green Book" - Oscar winner

of a black musician and his white driver, the film protagonist, in the Deep South of America in 1962. It is 'inspired' by the true friendship of Tony Vallelonga, an Italian-American body guard from The Bronx, and Dan Shirley, the black pianist Vallelonga is hired to drive and protect on a concert tour. Reviewing the film in 'Vox', Alissa Williamson says there were four things she learned about the *Green Book* in the movies:

1. *If you were a black American in the middle of the 20th century you most certainly knew about the Green Book. If you were a travelling black the book was essential for your safety – the Green Book was the bible of every Negro highway traveller in the 1950's – 60's.*
2. *The Green Book was necessary no matter which part of the country you were travelling through. The Green Book did not restrict its listing just to places like Georgia or Alabama in the South – it was a lifeline for travellers virtually anywhere in the country.*
3. *What the Green Books omitted is as significant as what they contained. It's a stark reminder of the long American tradition of respectability politics*
4. *The 1962 edition of the Green Book. (the year that the movie is set) there are listings for restaurants, hotels, entertainment establishments and even antique stores. The country was pretty much very racist, everywhere you went.*

For many Australians, there's an immediate connection with the era with the song 'Route 66' – a Rolling Stones hit of 1964, and covered since by nearly every aspiring garage rock band:

*Well, if you ever plan to motor west
just take my way that's the highway that's the best,
get your kicks on Route 66.*



Photo by Russell Lee, courtesy of Library of Congress

Last October, the writer and photographer Candacy Taylor received a grant from the *Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program* to photograph *Green Book* listings along the road – of which fewer than one-third are still standing and fewer than 5 per cent are operational. *Airbnb Magazine* picks up the story.

For most Americans, Route 66 represents freedom: wide-open highway, hair blowing in the wind, kitschy roadside attractions. But there is another side to the Mother Road – one that writer and photographer Candacy Taylor has spent years unearthing. Back in the Jim Crow era, black Americans driving through the US relied on a travel guide called *The Negro Travellers' Green Book* to tell them where they could and couldn't stop – for gas, a meal, a motel room. The book was produced by Victor H. Green, a black postal worker from Harlem, New York, and published between 1936 and 1967. Without this so-called Bible of Black Travel, a black motorist might unwittingly pull into a cafeteria or filling station where the reception would be hostile.

In August 2018 the NAACP issued its first ever statewide travel advisory, in Missouri. 'Sometimes people say to me, 'Thank God, we don't need Green Books anymore' or 'Thank God, that's over,' but it's not over,' says Taylor.

Here are a few examples of Green Book sites that are still standing:

The Dunbar Hotel, Los Angeles:

'The Dunbar was the first hotel in America built expressly for black people. It drew the crème de la crème of black intelligentsia and became a hot spot for Billie Holiday, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and Sarah Vaughan, who'd play at nearby clubs.



The Dunbar Hotel - still in Los Angeles

Clifton's Cafeteria, Los Angeles:

'Clifton's is legendary – and bizarre. Clifford Clinton, a white man, opened the first one in downtown LA at the terminus of Route 66, and it was interracial from the start.

Fitzgerald's Motel, Myrtle Beach, SC

'The owners of Fitzgerald's also owned a music club called Charlie's: this was another place where Lena Horne, Billie Holiday, and Duke Ellington hung out.

The motel is legendary because of these stars but also because there was a KKK shootout there in 1950.



Clifton's Cafeteria - Los Angeles

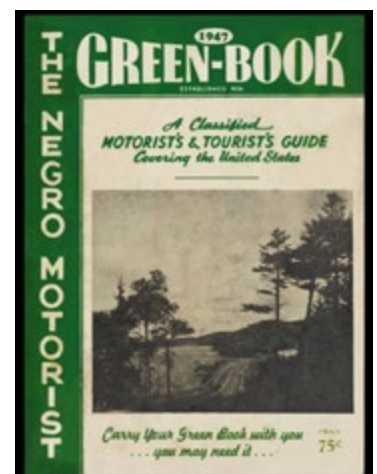
The Apollo Theater, Harlem, NY

'I have documented close to 400 Green Book sites in Harlem – it was Victor Green's home base – and the Apollo Theater is obviously an iconic site, but it's interesting because there were no other travel guides that really featured nightclubs in that way' said Taylor. Ultimately, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which outlawed discrimination in public accommodations, made the Green Book unnecessary almost overnight. It remained in publication until 1966, but Victor Green, who died in 1960, neither made that choice nor saw the end of segregation, which he believed would eventually put him out of business.

Twenty two editions of the Green Book (and one supplement) were published from 1937 to 1966, and the sadness inherent in the very existence of the Green Book came through. The end of the introduction to the 1949 edition made this clear. After thanking the United States Travel Bureau's 'Negro Affairs' office for their support, and asking readers to send their feedback and mention the book to establishments that might want to be listed, Green concludes: *There will be a day sometime in the near future when this guide will not have to be published. That is when we as a race will have equal opportunities and privileges in the United States. It will be a great day for us to suspend this publication for then we can go wherever we please, and without embarrassment.*

'But until that time comes we shall continue to publish this information for your convenience each year.'

In the May Edition of Brass Notes we will share some fascinating stories of African Americans in the veteran era who were involved in the embryonic development of the automobile.



President's Message

By Paul Daley

Member News..

Ben Alcock did the honours in assisting with the delivery of a 1911 Renault to its UK owner, *Andrew Howe-Davies*, who was participating in the Cracked Plug Run in Tasmania. The car was trailered from QLD to Bendigo, from where *Jeff Alcock* and Ben delivered it to Station Pier, from where he took it onboard and delivered it to Andrew in Tasmania.



Ben Alcock delivers the AX Renault

It was a case of 'boys being boys' when *David Holden* caught up with his old pal *Alan Miller* at Gibbs Steam Collection on the Saturday at our Bright rally. David resides in Violet Town, and the past summer has been exceptionally hot – 17 days between 40 – 45 degrees, with nights of 30 degrees. 'Never remember it so hot' said David, who, even in times of ill health, keeps his sense of humour.



David Holden with Alan Miller

THE CLUB LIBRARY

Members are welcome to borrow books from our Library which is open each Natter Night.

Daryl Meek is continually adding new acquisitions to this invaluable resource.

It was 'all aboard' and 'safety first' in *David Provan's* 1907 Cadillac, with *Claudia Holding* in charge of the 'big white hand' turn signal, which she managed in great style at each turn. There is only the polite single five fingered hand available on board, and David (ever the gentleman), has resisted the temptation of carrying a single fingered implement.



(F) David Provan, Robert Tenney and (R) Steve Hobbins and Claudia Holding

The irrepressible Rodney Anderson arrived in style at the Saturday morning display at Bright with his 1898 Louis Renault vehicle making a rather grand entry through the crowd. Partner *Jennifer Atherton* ably assisted in starting the rather temperamental machine, which was actually built by Louis Renault before the company was established. Back in 1898 it actually climbed the hill outside the Moulin Rouge in Paris to generate interest in the 'motor car' - on Christmas eve that year he won a bet with his friends that his invention with it's innovative crankshaft could beat a car with a bicycle-like chain up the slope of Rue Lepic, in Montmartre Paris, and together with his two older brothers Marcel and Fernand, he formed the Renault Freres company in February 1899.



Rodney Anderson and Jennifer Atherton... Louis Renault arrival

A Trip down memory lane...

During the RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally welcome dinner at Bright *John Stanley*, our Rally Director had a set of historical photos projected in the background. Most were mining related, as the area was significant for gold mining in the veteran era. Some of the photos included old cars and the attached photo of the Mount Buffalo Chalet includes a number of service cars. One of the cars, a Fiat was recognised by *Gordon Berg* as the very same car that *Ian* and *Gordon Berg's* grandparents used on their honeymoon in 1913 to the Mount Buffalo chalet. It can be found pictured in *Dementia Prodest*, page 15. How about that!



1913 – Mount Buffalo Chalet

Daryl Meek updates AOMC on Federal Government Issues...

At the last AOMC Delegates meeting, *Daryl Meek*, in his capacity with the RACV updated delegates on Federal Government issues. Daryl spoke about the work of the Australian Historical Vehicles Interest Group (AHVIG), which has sent in a submission to the Federal Government on the LCT issue. They are now looking at the asbestos issue and the National Vehicle Standards that are under review. Several points of concern are that any vehicle over 25 years old and over 3.5 tons is banned from being imported into Australia. Also, all vehicles imported need to be on a register of approved vehicles. Daryl and Doug Young had a meeting in Canberra with government officials, and they appeared to be receptive.

Protection of moveable cultural heritage: The Act has been reviewed, and no changes to the act but some rule changes. The major win is that a vehicle does not need to have a specific date or value to be considered significant under this act, so any vehicle considered to be of significance will need a special license before it can be exported. Daryl asked if anyone thinks that a significant vehicle is about to be exported dubiously, please get in contact with either the AOMC or himself.

Wing Cdr Robin Page (Rtd) to address Natter Night

Our April Natter Night will again have an ANZAC theme, and our guest speaker will be Wing Cdr Robin Page (Rtd). Robin had a stellar career with the RAAF, highlights being commanding squadron of Shackleton bombers in the Cold War, based in the UK, and involved with maritime reconnaissance. The Shackleton was crucial in guarding the North Atlantic from an anticipated rapid expansion of the Soviet Navy's submarine force. Robin then returned to Australia, and led the world famous RAAF Roulettes on their many displays across the nation – many members will recall the Roulettes flying over the MCG on Grand Final day. Robin is a past president of the MG Car Club, and today heads the Pre-War Register of that club. This will be another 'not to be missed' evening: **8:00pm Natter Night April 9.**

NATTER NIGHT

Tuesday April 9 - 8pm



RAF Shackleton Bomber



What Was the Cold War?

Special: ANZAC THEME

Join us for a special ANZAC themed evening with our Guest Speaker:
Wing Commander Robin Page (Rtd)
who will give an insight into his role with the RAF in the Cold War as well as his time leading the RAAF Roulettes.

The Cracked Plug Run 28 February – 7 March 2019

by Doug Fulford (Photos by Ben Alcock)



Steve Hobbins tops up David Provan's 1912 Talbot radiator after a long 5 kilometre climb up a steep mountain range



Doug and Vivian Fulford's 1917 Studebaker 'under the rainbow'

In 2016 Jill Hawkins and Kelvin Callahan organised a Peter Waddle memorial rally from the north west of Tasmania (Woolnorth) to as far south east as the roads go (The End of the Road at Cockle Creek). Fast forward to 2019 and the same two were at it again organising the Cracked Plug run to traverse the other diagonal – from the north east (Cape Portland) to as far south west as the roads go (Gordon Dam past Strathgordon). Once again they delivered a wonderful rally which took the last two years to organise. The roads we travelled were certainly challenging in places but our veteran cars are more than capable of meeting that challenge. However it is the sort of trip that most of us (mad dogs and English men excepted) probably wouldn't attempt without the comfort of having the backup of two breakdown trailers and a luggage trailer.

Normally what happens on tour stays on tour but it would be remiss of me not to whet your appetite with a few hints. It turns out that a certain Victorian is much more the life of the party sans matrimonial supervision. My lips are sealed, of course, but if you thought about it and drew your own conclusions you may well be on the right track.

Numbers are necessarily limited by the shortage of available accommodation in some of the overnight stays. This, coupled with the length of these events, means that you get to know all the entrants, renewing existing friendships and forging new ones. Not surprisingly most of the 2016 entrants signed up for the 2019 event including the two English men (Andrew and Shaun) who seem to visit that frequently that they are almost de facto Tasmanians. They even cater for people, such as the author, who hail from Tasmania's northern island (the Australian mainland) with organised runs from Devonport to the start of the event and back to Devonport after its conclusion.

For us the fun started at Port Melbourne as cars travelling to Devonport lined up ready to board. After a smooth sailing we drove to Turners Beach for a hearty welcome breakfast at the Hawkins' residence where we were joined by some of the entrants from northern

Tasmania. Luggage was safely stowed and last minute repairs and adjustments made by those that needed them. Michael Holding might have brought a different car but seeing him rebuilding its water pump was a case of déjà vu.

The car might have been different but at least he brought the same wife although not everyone must have been convinced as she was not infrequently referred to as Cynthia. One person, who knows Claudia well, when hearing Claudia referred to as Cynthia said "It's not Cynthia, it's Cindy". At least Claudia/Cynthia/Cindy had been warned that she would be "camping" which in Claudia-ese means dropping from 5 star accommodation to 4 star.

It was time to set off for Launceston, travelling mostly on rural back roads through Spreyton and Railton before reaching the A1 just south of Elizabeth Town for the run into Deloraine. Steve Fleming's Studebaker suddenly decided to run very rich and looked like it was trying to be a carbon conversion device. At Deloraine we had lunch in the 50s diner surrounded by lots of memorabilia including a fantastic collection of petrol bowlers many of which would have been relics even back in the 50s.

Thursday morning we were treated to a fabulous welcome breakfast at the Northern Section's club rooms. There we received a comprehensive rally survival pack with heaps of useful items including cable ties, band aids, towels, mittens, lollies, toilet paper, pot pourri, CP book mark, a fabulous rally badge and, of course, the rally instruction book. The exit from the car park was rather steep and a portent of what was to await us later in the week. The first of many marvellous morning teas was enjoyed at the top of the Sidling before heading to lunch at Scottsdale Recreation Reserve. Lunch over we travelled in convoy past the North East Soldiers Memorial Hospital on route to Gladstone, the last available petrol stop and purveyor of the highest priced soft drinks (\$5/bottle) that the author has ever struck. Then it was off to Ikena Farm for a welcome barbeque. David Provan's doctor's

coupe needed some minor surgery itself as it had lost some of its spark. The author was one of the onlookers who learnt a lot about magneto re-building as Andrew McDougall did wonders with a sheet of paper, a pair of scissors and a few more usual automotive tools. For some of us, the author included, there was a pleasant night time drive (6 volt headlights do leave a lot to be desired) to a stone hut at Cape Portland for a good night's sleep.

Friday morning the author and the other seven occupants of the stone hut got a rare chance to sleep in as the rest of the group had to drive from Icena to Cape Portland. After another lovely morning tea we got a tour of the wind farm at Cape Portland and a chance to go inside the base of one of the turbine towers. If you've never been up close to one you probably don't fully realise just how big they are. Then the cars were lined up for a group photo before heading off to the picturesque seaside town of Tomahawk for lunch at the caravan park. The first part of the journey involved returning to Gladstone so the author got to see the scenery he had driven past in darkness the night before. Bill and I had a rest from driving duties as Vivian drove the first leg from Cape Portland to Gladstone and later in the day from Tomahawk to Bridport. I think that she was the only woman driver on the rally but I am hopeful that more will take up the challenge. Somehow Greg Smith managed to miss the Tomahawk turn off (was that deliberate?) and so reached Bridport early where, as one would, he inveigled his way into a buck's party with the buck having to wear a pink tutu. One could suggest that he traded a turn off for a turn on. From Tomahawk we followed Greg's footsteps, well more correctly his tyre tracks, to Bridport for our overnight stop. Over the evening meal at the pub the poms' brass lights, which had magically disappeared, were auctioned off with Peter Hawkins the apparent high bidder.

Saturday we headed to the Batman Bridge pausing before crossing for another lovely morning tea. Having staved off any possible hunger we proceeded to cross the bridge and immediately exit onto quiet local roads to visit a winery and a lavender farm. We did manage to extract everyone from the winery although some did appear a bit reluctant and were apparently happy to stay there. Then it was off to Beaconsfield for lunch with beautiful salad rolls and cakes galore – so many that they were still being consumed over the next few days of the rally and a few were even donated to hungry looking locals. A group of men on motor cycles turned up shortly after we arrived, one of them wearing a pink tutu (which was rapidly becoming an underlying fashion accessory on this rally) and Greg Smith and he had a long conversation, allegedly about motor bikes. Fully satiated we headed off to Launceston with most of us opting for pizzas for dinner as there was a pizza restaurant at our accommodation.



A view inside the The Gordon Power Station; the largest conventional hydroelectric power station in Tasmania



James Dunshea pondering the white wall tyre effect after some of the dirt roads

The Cracked Plug Run 28 February (Cont.)

by Doug Fulford (Photos by Ben Alcock)



The cars parked under one of the 80m tall wind turbines – while the drivers got a sneak peek inside!

Sunday and we were on the move again, this time stopping at Pearn's Steam World in Westbury for morning tea. Several of our contingent were experiencing magneto issues so they diverted to look up a local magneto expert now retired. Then it was time for the big climb to the Great Lake region with lunch at the Hawkins' cabin at Breona on the way. There is a drastic change in the vegetation as you crest the top of the climb. That, combined with the view, is a rather amazing experience. The author got a tow to the top of the climb due to a carburettor issue that couldn't be resolved quickly roadside. In the light of day (actually more in the dark of night if you want to be accurate) having reached our destination (The Great Lake Motel) it turned out to be a vacuum tank issue and not a carburettor one. The poms must have been out for revenge as John Handley's brass lights were auctioned off with the local publican being the high bidder. The hotel staff were somewhat stretched so Andrew McDougall offered to help and was duly issued with an apron which the author feels rather suited him and that is all the author is prepared to say about the matter although he is, reportedly, open to bribery.

Monday we continued on past the Great Lake with our first stop at a vantage point overlooking the dam walls. I say dam walls plural because over the years the height of the lake has been increased twice by building new dam walls. Due to the water level being relatively low we could see the most recent concrete wall, much of the previous concrete wall and some of the original wooden dam wall. The cars were somehow all squeezed in to the car park so that a group photo could be taken with the Great Lake in the background. Morning tea was in the Steppes church hall. Then on to Bothwell Public school where lots of the children were taken for rides around the oval. A short detour enabled many of us to visit a collection of trucks and tractors. Probably even more interesting to most was the large collection of old oil cans and bottles and other garage

ephemera. From there we continued to Brighton for a very lovely and very well priced evening meal before heading off to bed – some earlier than others.

Tuesday's target was Strathgordon. Very nice morning teas and lunches were supplied by Westerway Public School, the former consumed at the school itself and the latter at Scotts Peak Road Junction. That road was still closed due to recent fire activity. Then it was a case of start your engines and head to Strathgordon. The scenery was breathtaking but the road is definitely a challenge in places. On the way we experienced firsthand the aftermath of some of the recent fires. Having got to Strathgordon a number of us didn't recognise our accommodation and did some bonus kilometres – both horizontal and vertical. The author was lucky to have been allocated to a unit with laundry facilities which was a great help as we had been travelling for quite some time.

Wednesday morning and we only had a relatively short way to travel to reach the south west end of the diagonal we had been travelling since Friday morning. Whilst the distance may not have been great I can assure you that there was no shortage of steep climbs and descents. We were privileged to have a special tour of the hydro-electric power station at Lake Gordon. The power station itself is 185 metres below ground level in a massive excavation. Hydro-electric power can be switched on and off rapidly and is excellent for handling peak loads and filling in for wind power when the wind isn't blowing. There is room for 5 turbine generators but only 3 have been installed. The newest one can operate as a generator or as a motor. At the time of our visit, which was after the morning demand peak, it was operating as a motor to stabilise the state's power supply voltage and frequency. Then we had a little, unscheduled excitement as the tour group the author was part of was trapped in the lift for about half an hour. After a short delay we were driven out via the

access shaft which was an eye opener in itself. The dam, the power station and the transmission line were quite a feat of engineering.

Happy (at first) to be back with our cars we were soon greeted by rain and some light hail. It was a rather slow, cold and wet drive for much of the way back to Rosetta (on the outskirts of Hobart) for the rally dinner. Low gear was most definitely the order of the day for the steep descents as wet veteran brakes are not particularly effective. Steve Fleming's Studebaker decided that the weather was so bad that it would develop a knock so it could go on to a trailer. It was great to reach Maydena safe and sound where a warm lasagne and salad warmed our insides although it would have been nice if they had lit the fire to warm our outsides as well. There was a platypus cavorting in a pond behind the restaurant. Additionally fortified with chocolate covered ice cream we continued to Rosetta with the weather gradually improving. Almost there the author had to stop at the roadside to attend to the vacuum tank (again!). This actually turned out rather well as the author's navigator managed to get a lovely picture of the car with a full rainbow in the sky above it.

That evening at the official dinner there were prizes for all the rally participants, lots of thank yous, farewells to some of our number who were heading off home the next morning, funny prizes courtesy of John Handley and the author's wife and even the odd limerick or two. For those who lived in the north of the state, those doing the State Rally and those heading back to the boat there were still two more days of rally to go.

Thursday our slightly depleted band headed to Richmond where pictures were taken of cars on Tasmania's oldest bridge, the antique shops were scoured for items we didn't need but had to have and the bakery visited for morning vittals. Then it was on to Oatlands for lunch at the pub. It's a fascinating hotel to say the least, with car parts and other items from yesteryear in both the male and female toilets (The author is not prepared to divulge how he knows). There was also heaps of Marilyn Monroe and Errol Flynn memorabilia on display. Then it was on to Ross with its own historic bridge. Many of us were staying in lovely historic cottages whilst the rest were accommodated in the pub where we all congregated for dinner along with members of the sheep breeders' association. Gavin discovered that the pub locks its doors late at night and despite throwing objects at Loretta's window had to bed down with the Poms.

Friday was sadly the last day of this marvellous adventure. We headed to the Longford Bakery via Cressy for our final lunch together before heading to Turners Beach for pizzas. We farewelled those who were booked on the boat that night as we were staying on for the Tasmanian State Rally which started the very next day.



The cars felt young parked in front of the heritage listed Richmond bridge – the oldest stone span bridge in Australia



Jill Hawkins doing the morning briefing before heading off for the day

In closing I have to say that it was great to have at least one lady driving a vet. As well it was great to have James Dunshea and Ben Alcock on the rally driving James's Hotchkiss. They are two wonderful young gentlemen and who fitted in so well with all of us from a significantly older generation. What's more they were happy to help out when a job needed doing and didn't need to be asked. Sometimes I worry about the future of the veteran car movement but with a few more people like these two the future will look a lot rosier.

The author feels especially privileged to have been able to participate in these two rallies and is thankful for the years of effort that Jill Hawkins and Kelvin Callahan have put in to organising them. It must have been nerve racking for them given the recent fire activity in Tasmania, some of it in areas we were to visit. A special thank you to Ashley, Terry and Pat our tail end charlies, Tony and Judy for morning teas, Judy and Stu for baggage support and Alan and Christine for photography. The author is hoping that the team will in time forget just how much effort goes in to running an event such as this and organise another such run, perhaps down the east coast? Wherever and whenever that may be you may take this as the author's expression of interest.

Veterans 'Bring A Lot Of Joy' To Bright

by Paul Daley (Photos by John Holt, Robin Page and Frances McDougall)

The picturesque town of Bright was the base for the RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally held over March 14-17. For Rally Director John Stanley the event was the result of over two year's meticulous planning – and the upshot was a simply outstanding rally, with a fully loaded programme, superb catering, magnificent scenery, and activities for every entrant to enjoy. John combined local history, 'colourful' local identities, flora and fauna, exclusive visits, morning teas to rave about, and two exceptional evening functions. Rally headquarters was the High Country Motor Inn, and Rally registration was undertaken by Michael and Claudia Holding who brought a wealth of rally knowledge and detail to planning in assisting John Stanley with the event.

The Club's policy of 'children free' at our events was embraced by a number of families – Shane and Karen Edwards, brought their children Marcus and Alana 'we're really enjoying it – the kids are having a ball', said Karen. Ian and Sue Berg made the event a get together for the entire family – Christopher Berg and Bronwyn Hinz with sons Lenny and Wally, Mathew and Jessy Berg, and Alastair Berg and Lucy Nicholl. All are members of our Club and have decided to do it again at next year's RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally in Hamilton. The AX Renault contingent included Karl and Lis Donald and their son Alexander.



Liz and Alexander Donald

THURSDAY

Thursday kicked off promptly at 2:15pm with a shakedown run billed as 'Wander Through Wandiligong' – a 19km meandering drive through Morses Creek Valley to the Wandiligong heritage listed village with its old buildings colourful gardens and scenic photo opportunities. Many stopped at the 1864 vintage 'Wandy Pub' – which is voted the best rural pub in Victoria, and then on to the Nightingale Bros. Alpine Produce Store and fruit packing facility. Another popular stop was the Wandy Maze for afternoon tea with their famous passionfruit sponge – mmm delicious!

The evening welcoming function was held at Pioneer Park sports ground facility – a modern function centre

catering for not only the local football teams, but also netball. Refreshments were available from Bright Brewery and Ringer Reef Vineyard, and then at 6:15pm John officially welcomed all and introduced the local indigenous people of the Dhu Dhu Roa tribe. For many, what was about to unfold was the highlight of the rally. Local leader Jida explained that he would be performing the Aboriginal welcoming Smoking Ceremony – an ancient custom among some Aboriginal Australians that involves smouldering various native plants that produce smoke which they believe has cleansing properties and the ability to ward off bad spirits. Jida gave a colourful history overview of his own family's journey – his grandmother evidently assisted Ned Kelly's mother Ellen Kelly with various nefarious activities including horse stealing – and we were all both amused and enthralled with Jida's warm personality and engaging stories as he 'cleansed' the rally. With Jida were a group of Aboriginal younger folk from the Northern Territory who were spending a year in Bright learning catering and engaging with the community.



David Provan with hands outstretched in 'smoking' ceremony

Many of our entrants took the opportunity to be 'cleansed', and UK visitor Andrew Howe-Davies needed an extra long dose of the cleansing smoke (no doubt mindful of Britain's colonial past), while David Provan watched by Robert Tenney took an ample anointing of smoke to the amusement of many.

With the scented smoke wafting over all it was time to move inside for the welcome smorgasbord dinner, prepared by the local indigenous restaurant – and what a spread we had! Here's just a sample: Indigenous spread BBQ Emu, Lemon Myrtle roast chicken, macadamia crushed Barramundi, sunset lentil salad, Warrigal greens with spinach salad, salt bush baby potato. It was a feast! John took the opportunity to thank the team from the Bright Vehicle Preservation Society and their President David Hogg and their large team who did so much to make us welcome and undertook many support duties over the course of the rally.

FRIDAY

Friday was designated the 'Long Run' 125km of the rally, and with an 8:15am briefing and four segments each of about 30km the rolling start saw all off by 8:30am. First stop via Porepunkah was the Myrtleford Golf Club, where a spread of tea, coffee and scones was devoured in the club house. There was time for golf enthusiasts and beginners to show their golfing prowess. The 'closest to the pin' comp saw a field of entries trying their luck. Typical was Peter Hammet whose choice of club for the 130 yards was the 'reason' for his wayward ball off the green. It seemed that young Marcus Edwards was in the hunt for the win only to be upstaged by David Nicholls at the close of the comp. Both were awarded prizes at the Gala Dinner.

The second leg of 33km took us on a back road to Whorouly, and on to the Gibb Family Steam collection, where Robyn and Andrew Gibb have more than 50 steam engines dating from as far back as 1906. A highlight for many was a ride in a 1922 coal fired steam bus. After a box lunch, the third leg took us back along the Snow Road to Myrtleford, with a visit to the unusual Red Ramia store. The final leg of 31km back to Bright saw many stop off at the Pumpkin Seed factory, sampling chocolate coated pumpkin seeds.

SATURDAY

The town of Bright was buzzing on Saturday morning with a farmer's market drawing a crowd, and the veterans were on display for two hours adjacent the Bright Brewery. There were hundreds of locals and tourists, and RACV Director Alex Downie was on hand to enjoy the display and at 10:00am flag us off: Tania Smallman and her husband Martin had their 1911 Stanley Steamer on display, and commented 'It's really good to see people enjoying the cars' – and there was an almost carnival atmosphere amongst the crowd. Engaging with the community is part of our charter with the RACV, and drivers were on hand answering questions – this was veteran motoring on a community level for all to see.

Alex Downie flagged us off for the 19km run down to the Buckland Bridge where a lavish morning tea 'country style' with all the goodies was enjoyed. John introduced local identity Ray Kompe, a chap who 'knows how to live', said John. Ray lives in a secluded bush hut, and his sole income is from gold panning – his record being 43 ounces of gold in 20 minutes! Ray gave us a detailed demonstration of panning – beginning with 'play mud pies' and then pan the 'pea soup', and stopping to add water every twenty times, eventually the gold will find its way to the bottom of the pan. Ray says he's had 'more gold pans than breakfasts', and his father was a gold miner, who when Ray was a youngster said, 'Son, I'll teach you the facts of life – gold panning'. He did, and today Ray lives happily as a recluse bachelor in the bush.

John briefed drivers before the 26km run down to the Red Stag deer and emu park and restaurant which had as its approach a road that to veterans was a 'hill climb' – most made it up and a hearty lunch was enjoyed with convivial beverages.

As with any rally there were breakdowns, and on the Saturday John had a full-time job responding to over eight breakdowns – some cars had multiple flat tyres, and the Stanley Steamer also was a victim of 'two flats'! John kept his cool under enormous pressure!



Saturday saw a range of breakdowns

The formal rally 'Gala Dinner' was held at Pioneer Park on Saturday evening with Paul Daley the M.C. There were over 150 guests and the venue decorated by John, with Christina Torio providing souvenir historical placemats and a superb table setting done by BVPS members Sally Peet and Marg Fitridge. Paul welcomed RACV Director Alex Downie and Di Downie, and fellow VCCA Presidents, Doug Fulford (NSW), and Peter Arnold (QLD) who is also Chair of The Association of Veteran Car Clubs of Australia, together with Andrew McDougall, Australian representative FIVA, and Robin Page, Convenor Pre War Register MG Car Club. A sumptuous three course dinner was enjoyed with ample refreshments. VCCA (Vic) Secretary David Provan, presented 50 Year Award badge to Heather Cox, who has been a member since 1967. John made special reference to the work done by Michael and Claudia Holding in assisting him with many of the 'back-of-house' tasks including clerical and budgeting.

The Ron Hobbs Perpetual Trophy presentation saw Paul Daley acknowledge three previous winners who were present; Colin Daniels (2007), Brian Scudds (2013) and Kevin Quigley (2015). The trophy is awarded by the Rally director of the day who takes into account authenticity, major breakdowns, repairs, and overcoming personal hardship to participate in the Rally. John then announced his winning entry: Martin & Tina Smallman, 1911 Stanley Steamer. There was laughter when John suggested that his choice was biased – of course, a Stanley!

Veterans 'Bring A Lot Of Joy' To Bright (Cont.)

by Paul Daley (Photos by John Holt, Robin Page and Frances McDougall)



The display on Saturday morning at Bright was absolutely spectacular and we benefited from perfect weather. It coincided with the Bright Market and the two events ensured a lot of local interest.



Veterans 'Bring A Lot Of Joy' To Bright (Cont.)

by Paul Daley (Photos by John Holt, Robin Page and Frances McDougall)

Paul also acknowledged the recent award of an Order of Australia to Terry Wills Cook for his work with the Geelong Art Gallery and his design linking it to the Geelong Town Hall, creating a most significant regional Gallery. The announcement of future rallies is always a highlight with John Handley (QLD) over viewing the coming Bundaberg Nationals, Daryl Meek the Nhill event in November, Peter Caffyn RACV Veteran Car Club Annual Rally Wangaratta in November, and Graham Donges, promoting the National 1 & 2 Rally at Charleville (QLD) April 2020. Paul then announced next year's RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally to be held at Hamilton, March 12 – 15 2020, with Rally Director Doug Palmer.

Andrew Howe-Davies (UK) gave a humorous and colourful acknowledgement of his time again in Australia, and his enjoyment of the rally. Peter Arnold (QLD) congratulated John on the superb rally. In closing Paul Daley on behalf of the VCCA (Vic) and attendees made a presentation gift and warmly thanked John and Christina Torio for their tireless contribution to every detail of what was an outstanding event.

SUNDAY

Sunday morning saw the fleet head off on a 35km run to the picturesque historic town of Harrietville, with a morning tea stop at Shady Brook Gardens – an idyllic garden setting of 12 acres on the Ovens River. The cars were packed in secluded glen, and the morning light filtering through the trees was perfect for our photographic buffs. Shady Brook owners John and Anne Adkins made us welcome and happily answered all things botanical. It was then just a short 'round the corner' drive to Tavare Park, where a hearty 'brunch' of bacon and egg rolls was served – the catering was done by the local Primary School and donation was made to the local CFA. During the brunch, local historian Andrew Swift gave us a brief history of the Harrietville gold mines and the local Historical Society's Museum was visited. The locals enthusiastically embraced our visit and one commented 'People just start smiling when they see the cars', and another local just captured the moment, 'The cars bring a lot of joy', she reflected.



The steam wagon at the Gibbs family Steam collection lunch stop made quite a spectacle.



Peter and Judy Fitzgerald in the ex Jim McCaffrey 1911 Maxwell.



Alan and Heather Esmore in their 1908 Cadillac.



John Washbourne and Judy Lewis with their 1913 Humberette.



Peter Hawkins in the 1906 Darracq with Michael Holding and Jill Hawkins.



Stephen Dynes leads the pack with his 1914 Triumph, one of two motorcycles on the rally.



Jane and Evan Quarmby toured successfully in the 1911 Renault.



Shane and Lynette Edwards had the 1908 REO out for the first time.



Arriving at the Gibbs family Steam collection on the Friday was Terry Wills Cooke and passenger Vinni Romeo in the 1910 Buick.

Veterans 'Bring A Lot Of Joy' To Bright (Cont.)

by Paul Daley (Photos by John Holt, Robin Page and Frances McDougall)



Claudia admiring The 1911 Brush of Graham Dongs QLD



Bruce Humphries & Kevin Quigley in Ken Russell's 1904 De Dion



Traction engine projects at the Gibbs collection.



Neil and Deanne Walker are up front in the 1906 Cadillac while Glenys enjoys the steady climb in the back



Along the road, typical of the beautiful scenery of the area.

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Seen at the Torquay Motor Show - 10 February 2019

photos by Callum Walsh



The Smallman's 1911 Stanley 63 Touring



The Smith's 1936 Packard 120B Convertible Sedan by Dietrich

Hermitage article in March Brass Notes



Milnes-Daimler bus in London.

Rick Thege advises that the buses in the March Brass Notes 'Healesville and across the Black Spur' article are indeed Milnes-Daimler manufactured in England. They were the first company to provide motorised buses in the United Kingdom in 1903.

And Brian Smart also advises re the buses that he is aware that later in 1916 a bus service was started from Melbourne to Woods Point via Healesville using 2, 12 seater Buick Charabanks.



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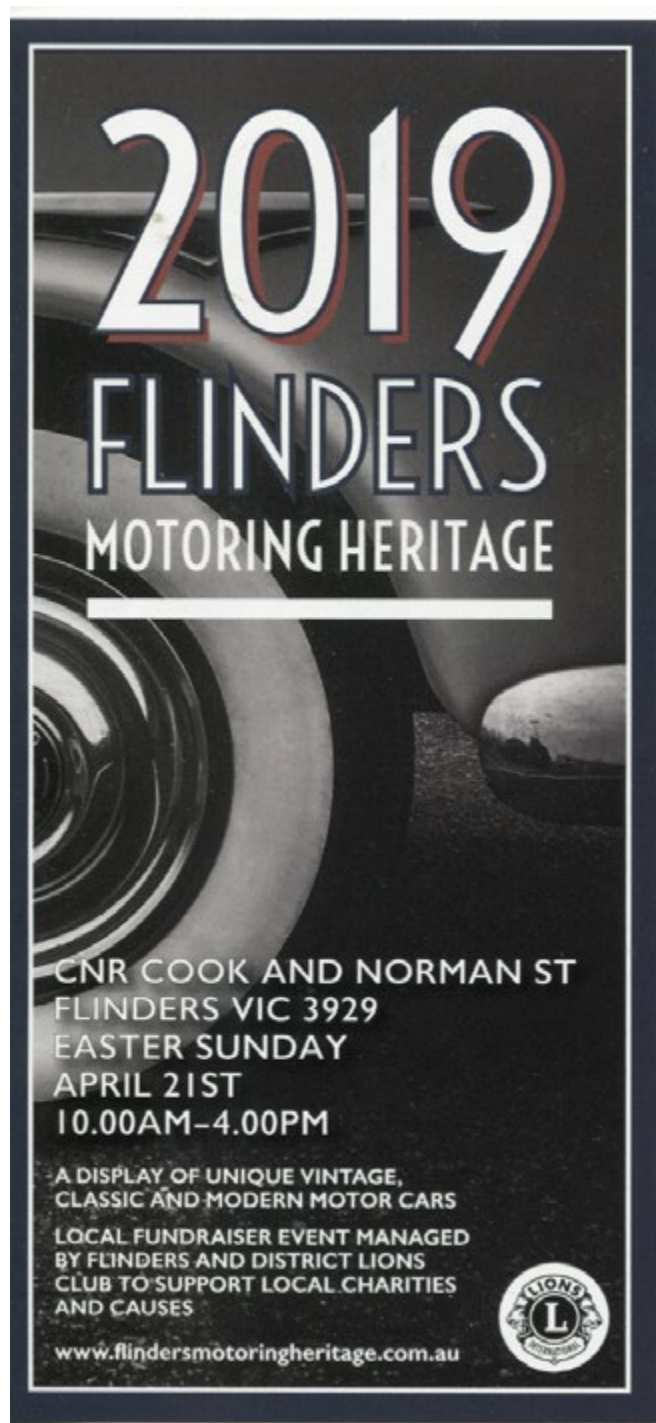


Events

TRI-CLUB HOT CROSS BUN RUN

A Tri Club Event, the organisation of this annual event is shared by the Veteran Car Club Victoria (VCCAV); Vintage Drivers Club (VDC) and Classic & Historic Automobile Club of Australia (CHACA). This year it will be hosted by VCCA.

Free Hot Cross Buns, tea and coffee will be provided by VCCA at Rosella Oval, Braeside Park, Lower Dandenong Road, Braeside (Melway 88 E8). Enter from Lower Dandenong Road. Rosella Oval is the last oval on the left hand side before the exit back onto Lower Dandenong Road. Please note this is a one way circuit!




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NATIONAL BRUSH RALLY 2019 GOOLWA SOUTH AUSTRALIA

All Brush enthusiasts are called to register now for the next National Brush Rally being held in Goolwa South Australia 22nd to 26th April 2019. Following the highly successful Rally in July 2017, plans are well under way to make the 2019 event even bigger with a huge push to encourage members from the UK and USA to join us. It would be great if we could get 20 cars!

If you are a Brush owner and you haven't already registered for the Members Forum, please do so via any of the following:

the website <http://brushownersregister.com/>
email brushownersregister@gmail.com or
post to Brush Owners Register, PO Box 440, Willunga, SA 5172

When: 22nd to 26th April 2019

Where: Goolwa South Australia

Contact: <http://brushownersregister.com>

FOUR AND MORE RALLY - COROWA - NSW

Come join us on a journey steeped in history for the 2019 Four and More Rally at the Birthplace of Australia's Federation, Corowa NSW. You will be intrigued how this quaint little river town became woven into our nations history books.

The Four and More Corowa rally will be in a PAY AS YOU GO format with the only up front cost being the entry fee. For those who have period costumes, we ask you to please bring them along. We will be encouraging our members to please support the local volunteer organisations we have asked to provide lunches and morning/ afternoon teas, this will be advised in the rally booklet. For those who require secure trailer parking: It will be gratefully supplied to our members by O'Connors Case IH Dealership, 439 Honour Avenue Corowa.

We will be visiting an historic property, museums, travelling to a magnificently scenic location where an Australian bush ranger once roamed, then visiting a small country town settled in 1869 when 56 Germans from Ebenezer, South Australia made their journey across in 14 covered wagons of which one has survived and is on display. We will also visit an historical society which is like stepping back 120 years into the local grocery store. Longest days run will be Saturday 27th 160 Km.

Be sure to book your accommodation NOW as this is the ANZAC weekend and Corowa books out fast.

Accommodation:

Ball Park Caravan Park	(02) 6033 1426
Motel Meneres	(02) 6033 1066
Corowa Gateway Motel	(02) 6033 1566

Golfers Lodge Motel	(02) 6033 1366
Corowa Caravan Park	(02) 6033 1944
Corowa Golf Club Motel	(02) 6033 4188
Statesman Motor Inn	(02) 6033 2411
Corowa Motor Inn	(02) 6033 1255
Rivergum Holiday Park	(02) 6033 1990
Best Western Heritage Motor Inn	(02) 6033 1800
Greenacres Motel	(02) 6033 2288
Corowa Bindaree Holiday Park	(02) 6033 2500
Federation Motor Inn	(02) 6033 2022
Golden Chain Lone Pine Motel	(02) 6033 2966

When: Thursday 25th - Sunday 28th April 2019

Where: Corowa

Rally Organisers: David LangT: 03 58 81 2492,
Don McPherson M: 0412 851 325

FOUR AND MORE RALLY - COROWA - NSW (Cont.)

EXCLUSIVE OFFER!

25th to 27th April 2019, Corowa NSW

We have been offered the wonderful opportunity for some of our members to stay in the cottages overlooking the scenic back waters of the Murray River at the historic working property, Collendina Station.

Collendina Station is situated 17km west of Corowa on the Corowa Mulwala Road. Our rally will be visiting Collendina Station on Saturday 27th April to see and learn how this magnificent property became a part of the local district's and Australia's history.

Collendina is now owned by Rodger and Kim Mathews, they are widely known for their Borambil Merino Stud.

Kim has been busy setting up the cottages for holiday rental accommodation and our members have been offered the chance to be the first to have the opportunity to stay on this iconic property.

There are only two cottages, so first in best dressed!

To secure your booking Kim can be contacted direct on:

Contact: Kim Mathews
M: 0428 525 713

THE FLORENCE THOMSON TOUR

"Celebrating women in motoring"
SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2019

In celebration of Victorian women's pioneering spirit and contributions to motoring, RACV invites women historic vehicle drivers to register for the annual RACV Florence Thomson Tour.

The 110-kilometre tour starts at the RACV Cobram Resort on 27 April.

Guests will also be invited to make a weekend of it in the magnificent Murray Sun Country region.

Places are limited to 200 participants. RACV members will be given priority.

Please register your interest via the form at


events.racv.com.au/florencethomsonontour2019

Conditions of Entry to the Florence Thomson Tour

1. Expressions of interest close on 15 February 2019 (places limited to 200 guests)
2. Drivers must be women
3. Vehicles must be 25 years or older with priority going to older vehicles
4. Only one vehicle may be entered on the expression of interest form
5. The recommended driving route must be followed as part of the tour
6. Cancellations must be made prior to 5 April 2019 after which no refund will be given
7. To participate in this event, you must fully complete the official expression of interest form online at events.racv.com.au/florencethomsonontour2019
9. If your expression of interest is accepted, you will receive notification providing entry and payment information
9. Please note that an entry fee is \$50 per person (All entry fees will be donated to the RACV Community Foundation)

PRE 1905 PIONEER RUN

BACK BY
POPULAR
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PRE 1905 PIONEER RALLY

Ballarat, Victoria
18th - 19th May
2019

Head to the shed, dust
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preparation begin as a
weekend of early
veteran motoring
awaits!

**MORE INFO
& ENTRY FORMS
TO FOLLOW**

**For enquiries
please contact
Greg Smith
0447 395 233**



On April 30th 1900, Messrs H. Thomson and E.L. Holmes left Bathurst to travel to Melbourne. A distance of 493 and a quarter miles, covered in ten days, at an average of 8.72 miles per hour. They encountered

Events

dreadful weather, biting cold, torrential rain, washed out bridges, clay bogs and tracks that were barely tracks. They slept under drover's carts, survived on two day old sandwiches, had only mile posts for direction and blacksmith repairs en route kept the vehicle running. They also experienced amazing hospitality, fantastic interest in the vehicle and their journey and the 'tremendous excitement and pleasure' of 'travelling at fully 40 miles per hour'... 'with the car seemingly alive under us'. They arrived in Melbourne on May 9th 1900.

Successfully proving the practicality of the motor vehicle for Australian conditions. Mr H. Thomson wrote "The introduction of the Motor Car must surely go a long way towards giving the colonies better roads, and it is not a rash statement to make that before long we will have the "coming vehicle" speeding merrily through our country roads, excelling our old friend the horse, and equalling the utility of the railroad."

In 2019, over the weekend of May 18th and 19th, the second run for Pre '05 pioneer vehicles – motor cars, motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles will happen in Ballarat. Until like Messrs Thomson and Holmes, there will be soft and warm beds, comfortable accommodation and food and drink to satisfy the needs of all. Two days of gentle ambling on the roads that Mr Thomson foresaw with guaranteed 'merrily', and without the need to 'speed'. A glorious weekend of wonderful motoring, joyous company and an opportunity to demonstrate to this part of the world the ingenuity and foresight of motoring's earliest creators and the practicality of their designs.

Join us: each day approximately 45 kilometres total distance on country roads: Saturday - Learmonth, Sunday – Smythesdale.

For further information:

Contact: Greg Smith 0447 395 233

43RD HISTORIC WINTON, WINTON MOTOR RACEWAY, NEAR BENALLA, VICTORIA AUSTRALIA

Conducted by the Austin 7 Club Inc A0003290N with the assistance of the HMRV

Historic Winton – Australia's longest running, all-historic motor race meeting runs for three big days of non-stop action one week earlier in 2019 from Friday 17th to Sunday 19th May 2019. This iconic city meets country event will feature all the grandeur and pace of yesteryear at the spectacular rural location of Winton Motor Raceway.

Over 400 historic racing cars, motorbikes and sidecars from the 1920s to the 1980s battle it out for line honours as spectators revel in the races, competition paddock, trader market and huge heritage display of veteran and vintage vehicles.

The long weekend of historic motoring will commence on Friday 17th May with the RACV Benalla Historic Vehicle Tour and at Winton Motor Raceway, practice events will be held with entry at no charge, if the public would like to pop in for a look.

Get ready to be amazed at the list of veteran, vintage and classic car anniversaries this time round. More than 2,000 display vehicles are expected to surround the race track on the weekend.

The display area is huge, so spectators are provided with a free courtesy bus that stops at the various display points around the site.



2019 RACV MID WINTER RALLY - INVERLOCH

The 2019 RACV Mid Winter Rally will this year test out the winter woolies. A 2.5 day event starting with a casual dinner on Friday Night will be based in the picturesque seaside town of Inverloch, only 2 hours South East of Melbourne. We will have the chance to enjoy the bass coast and some of its wonders including the State Coal Mine in Wonthaggi, the Bunurong Coastal Drive, Cape Liptrap and others.

Join us for our traditional cold start competition at the RACV resort in Inverloch on Sunday morning followed by a scenic drive and lunch ready to return back to the RACV resort with plenty of time to get back home for those that need.

Entry forms out now – Don't forgets kids (under 16) are FREE

When: July 19-20 2019
Where: Inverloch (accommodation at RACV resort or other options available in town)
Who: Ben Alcock 0404 917 366

HCCA INTERNATIONAL TOUR 2019 BATHURST

Have you booked your accommodation? Have you submitted your entry form? With just 7 months it is time to commit. There are still rooms available at Rally Headquarters, Rydges but you need to book now.

Log onto the tour website for all the information you need. www.hccabathurst2019.com.au

Newsletter No 4 is now available: This includes details on accommodation, trailer parking, caravan, motorhome and camping sites, and pre and post event tours.

Don't miss out! An entry form is downloadable from the event website or our own VCCA (Vic) club website.

When 30 August – 6 Sept 2019
Contact: Russell & Chris Holden, Rally Directors on 0422 219 911 or
email: info@hccabathurst2019.com.au

2019 NATIONAL VETERAN RALLY – BARGARA, QUEENSLAND IN RALLY ACTION

After the enjoyment and camaraderie of this year's National Veteran Rally at Forbes, the 2019 mantle has been handed over! Here it's definitely heads down with action plans, lessons learnt, meetings and begging letters. Certainly, it is an advantage having the rally in our own neighbourhood, particularly when working with the council, local organisations and leaning on friends! It's also useful being able to check out all the eateries! To date we have 88 EOIs and more accommodation managers have come up

with discounts. We welcome on board Hazel Burley as our Treasurer and Marc Obrowski looking after media and newsletters. Web master Peter Ransom is busy keeping our site at www.vccaq.com updated and number crunching all the EOI data.

We have appointed a rally choreographer, plus helping with musical entertainment is Tony "Goose" Spruce, lead singer in Old Bones! The ladies are not forgotten, a "Shelia Shack" with lots of exciting plans is shaping up.

The rallying days will offer something special and memorable for all our entrants whether driving long or short-legged cars. You will be amazed what diversity and interest our region has to offer. We will have several opportunities, for those who wish, to use their vehicle lights. After the rally, on the Tuesday 24th Sept. with a good number of model Ts and other treasures still here,

John Handley will provide one of his unique "Outback" days. We hope you have your favourite Hawaiian shirt and Lei ready for packing!

Pre and post rally activity

Either side of the rally are opportunities for some great local activity. Each newsletter will offer a different suggestion. We have arranged with Lady Musgrave Experience for a discounted day trip:

Day trip to Lady Musgrave Island
<https://ladymusgraveexperience.com.au/>

Lady Musgrave is the jewel of the Southern Great Barrier Reef, enjoy from Bundaberg port a luxury catamaran transfer to Lady Musgrave Island on the way perhaps see whales. Then, with a guide, have time swimming and exploring the island before heading back. "See the Great 8" is the cry!

Accommodation

Bargara has ample accommodation in a variety of configurations. It is worth booking at the earliest opportunity. Airbnb seems to be offering some attractive deals but check the location and distance from Bargara. The Esplanade offers a nice short pleasant walk from all the accommodation to Rally Base.

When: 17th – 23rd September 2019
Where: Bargara (Bundaberg, QLD)
Contact: Rally2019@skymesh.com.au

2019 MODEL T FORD NATIONAL TOUR – MARYBOROUGH QLD

Model T owners QLD Inc (MTOQ), welcomes all Model T Ford enthusiasts to join us in 2019 for the 13th National Model T Tour. This tour is to be based in the city of Maryborough, Queensland from Sunday 29th September to Sunday 5th October 2019 on the banks of the Mary River. Just a short 3 hours' drive (250km) north of Brisbane, Maryborough is a thriving and vital city on the banks of the Mary River, filled with meticulously maintained Heritage Listed buildings, just a short Model T drive from the beautiful Fraser Coast and Hervey Bay.

For all enquiries and entry details visit the website www.mtoq12.wix.com/mtoq/2019-national or email MTOQ2019rally@hotmail.com for an information pack. Tour Director Peter Cameron has already begun his tour of duty preparing newsletters to keep everyone informed of the planning process and uploading them to the website. Peter's tip for this tour: book your accommodation from the list on the website!

When: 29th September – 5th October 2019
Where: Maryborough QLD
Contact: Peter Cameron, National Tour Director
PO Box 1282, Carindale, QLD 4152
T: (07) 3219 4192
E: popintomaryborough2019@hotmail.com

Events

TAVCCA NATIONAL VETERAN TOUR 2020 SWAN HILL

2020 is just around the corner.

Expression Of Interest will be out shortly. This will explain some of what to expect on the Swan Hill on the Murray event.

The theme of Rural Edwardian Australiana will dominate the week. Suitable for both large and small veterans, 1&2's will easily cope with the terrain and the runs.

The rally starts with a Mayoral Welcome, Sunday afternoon, October 11th 2020 and finishes with breakfast on Saturday morning October 17th.

As always: book your accommodation NOW!!! Book directly with the property (do not book on-line) and quote the VCCA rally. Check cancellation policy.

Big4 Riverside (Rally Headquarters)

In town, adjacent to the daily start and the display day. Cabins reserved until September 2019. Many configurations (Studio, 2 bedroom, 3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms)

Plenty of powered sites.

Must book direct on 1800 101 012 and quote VCCA

Swan Hill Resort

Also in town, 1.3 km from the daily start. Over 60 rooms of varying configurations. (some 2nd story rooms)

Phone direct on 1800 034 220 and quote VCCA

Big4 Swan Hill

2km from daily start (60kph speed zone). Cabins reserved, plenty of powered sites and trailer parking.

Phone direct 1800 990 389 and quote VCCA Rally

Lazy River Motor Inn

Next door to the Big4 Swan Hill. 2km from daily start (60kph speed zone.) Plenty of trailer parking. Budget – clean, all ground floor units.

Phone direct 03 5032 2123 and quote VCCA Rally

When: 11 October – 17 October 2020

Where: Swan Hill, Victoria

Contacts: Rally Directors Michael & Claudia Holding
0407 008 895 or email
mholding@netspace.net.au
for the spiel:
claudia_holding@hotmail.com
for the facts



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100% of the sale proceeds go to preventing youth homelessness.

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donateyourcar.org.au

LUNCHEON GROUP

Our Luncheon Group meets on the last Tuesday of the month at our Club rooms.

It's a BYO, with tea and coffee supplied. Daryl Meek co-ordinates assistance with Library and Archive storage.

Natter Night Meeting Minutes

Natter Night Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 12 March 2019 at the
Veteran Car Club of Australia (Victoria) Inc.
Clubrooms, Lynden Park, Wakefields Grove,
Camberwell

1. Opening

The Club's President, Paul Daley, opened the meeting at 8.00 pm and welcomed all members and guests to the meeting.

2. Attendance

There were 49 members who attended the meeting.

3. Apologies

Hugh and Rayna Guthrie, Deane and Pam Hill, Cliff and Betty Ward, David Inglis, Brian Hussey, Bill and Glenis Lindsay, Margaret Lethborg, John Washbourne, Stan Bone.

4. Member News

Paul Daley informed members that Stan Bone, Geoff Payne and James Dunshea had recently celebrated their birthdays, and that the funeral service for Alan Burr was held on 12 March.

5. Treasurer's Report – Peter Hammet

Peter reported that the cheque account balance was \$8,786.14, the cash management reserve account balance was \$34,164.19 and the term deposit balance was \$97,220.77.

6. Membership – David Provan

David welcomed the following new members to the Club.

Phillip and Susan Schudmak from South Yarra. Phillip and Susan own a 1906 Clément and a 1919/20 Sunbeam.

7. Events – Ben Alcock

7.1 Past Events

RACV British and European Motoring Show – 24 February 2019.

The Cracked Plug Run (Tasmania) – 28 February to 7 March 2019. Andrew McDougall provided an event report.

7.2 Future Events

National Veteran Motorcycle Rally (Ulverstone, Tasmania) – 10 to 15 March 2019.

RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally (Bright) – 14 to 17 March 2019.

Kalorama Rally (veteran cars will be featured this year) – 24 March 2019.

Good Friday Hot Cross Bun Run – 19 April 2019.

National Brush Rally 2019 (Goolwa, South Australia) – 22 to 26 April 2019.

The Four and More Rally – 25 to 28 April 2019.

RACV Florence Thomson Tour (Cobram) – 27 April 2019.

Pre-1905 Pioneer's Rally (Ballarat) – 17 to 19 May 2019.

8. Library and Archives Report – Daryl Meek

Daryl advised members that there had been no acquisitions to the Club's library since the last meeting. Daryl reminded members who wish to borrow a book to please advise him. The March Luncheon Group will meet on Tuesday 26 March from 12 noon.

9. What Makes Us Tick?

Ian Berg delivered a short presentation about his role in managing electronic communications and the Vision6 database.

10. Wanted, For Sale or Swap

There were no items wanted, for sale or to swap this month.

11. General Business

The Australian Historic Vehicle Interest Group

Daryl Meek informed members that he, along with David Wright and Andrew McDougall, are members of the Australian Historic Vehicle Interest Group (AHVIG). Daryl advised anyone who is about to import a vehicle to try another pathway, which may avoid the luxury car tax and GST.

There were no other items of general business.

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will commence at 8.00 pm on 9 April 2019. The guest speaker will be Robin Page (MG Car Club) who will share his story about his role with the RAAF in the Cold War.

13. Closure

The President closed the meeting at 8.37 pm.

14. Presentation

Russell Kerr (Founder) and Lisa Vagg (Advocacy and Schools Development Manager) delivered a presentation about the 'Hands on Learning' programme. Russell taught in secondary schools for 30 years before developing the innovative programme in 1999 to cater to the different ways young people learn. The programme is committed to preventing exclusion and early school leaving by creating opportunities for young people to discover their talents and experience success through hands on learning. The programme now runs in schools throughout Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania.

THE VETERAN CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA) INC.
Registration number A0097964Y

ABN 67 004 366 312

PLEASE DIRECT ENQUIRIES IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TO THE SECRETARY

CLUB MAILING ADDRESS

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Mt Waverley, VIC 3149

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e president@veterancarclub.org.au

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e treasurer@veterancarclub.org.au

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Ian Berg (Sue)
t 0419 364 427

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Geoff Payne (Sue)
t (03) 9560 6837

Daryl Meek (Fiona)
t 0407 881 288

Greg Smith (Denise)
t 0447 395 233

Brian Hussey
t 0418 561 910

John Prior (Paula)
t 0418 548 184

Deb Alcock
t 0412 777 676

Callum Walsh (Francesca)
t 0447 766 724

FIVA REPRESENTATIVE (TAVCCA)

Andrew McDougall

SUB COMMITTEE CHAIR

DATING

Andrew McDougall

LIBRARIAN AND ARCHIVIST

Daryl Meek

SUBCOMMITTEE: MEMBERSHIP

Geoff Payne and David Provan

EVENTS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Events Subcommittee meets in February, May and October to plan the Club's forthcoming events, which are published annually in the Club Calendar with regular updates in Brass Notes. Chair – Ben Alcock, Participants - Paul Daley, David Provan, David Wright, Daryl Meek, James Dunshea, Ben Alcock, Chris Dillon, Robert Couper, Brendan Pierce, John Prior, Michael Holding.

SUBCOMMITTEE:

CLUBROOMS MANAGEMENT

John Prior and Jim McCaffrey

SUBCOMMITTEE: SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEXT GENERATION

Ben Alcock, James Dunshea and Callum Walsh

CLUBROOMS COORDINATOR

John Prior (Sign-in book, Scott Staples)

REGISTRAR & PERMIT

APPLICATIONS & RENEWALS

Geoff Payne
e registrar@veterancarclub.org.au
Postal:
26 Windella Cres, Glen Waverley, 3150

CLUB STOCK

John Prior (Paula)

SAFETY COMMITTEE / SCRUTINEERS

Brian Hussey
t 0418 561 910

Bob Ballinger (Helen)
t (03) 9746 1345

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MEMBER eCOMMUNICATIONS

Ian Berg

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ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

Frances McDougall

PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATIONS

Callum Walsh

AOMC & FEDERATION DELEGATES

Daryl Meek
Andrew McDougall

VETERAN CARS & THE VCCA

A veteran vehicle is any mechanically propelled vehicle built on or before December 31, 1918. The Veteran Car Club of Australia (Vic.) is open to all persons interested in the preservation and restoration of these vehicles, and ownership of such a vehicle is not a condition of membership. Please refer to our web-site for a membership application form and additional information.

BRASS NOTES

Brass Notes is the Journal of the Veteran Car Club of Australia (Victoria). Contributions for Brass Notes are welcome, and should be forwarded to the editor by the 20th of the prior month preferably via email, or posted to the Club's address. When submitting digital photos, please send as JPG files attached to an email at the highest resolution available.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Opinions expressed in Brass Notes are not necessarily those of the editor, the VCCA (Victoria) or its officers. Technical articles are published in good faith and no responsibility for their accuracy will be accepted. All advertisements are published without endorsement by the VCCA (Victoria) or its officers.

Unless specified otherwise, articles may be copied with acknowledgement to Brass Notes of the VCCA (Victoria) as the source.

The editorial team reserves the right to edit or omit any material submitted for inclusion in Brass Notes. The decision to publish a letter in Brass Notes is the decision of the editorial team.

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VICROADS PERMITS AND SAFETY CHECKS FOR MEMBERS VETERAN CARS AND MOTORCYCLES

If you require your vehicle safety inspected, and verified for Vicroads eligibility, please review the Vicroads permit requirements on their web-site, and contact Brian Hussey or Bob Ballinger. They will assist with the process for obtaining a permit, and advise of a club Scrutineer who can inspect the vehicle at a mutually convenient time.

JP SERVICES AT NATTER NIGHTS

As a service to VCCA (Victoria) Inc. members our President Paul Daley JP and Secretary David Provan JP, in their capacity as Honorary Justices of the Peace for the State of Victoria, are available at Natter Nights or by appointment to provide document witnessing and certification services.

CLUB MEETINGS

Monthly meetings (Natter Nights) are held at 8:00pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (excl. January) in the Club Rooms:

Lynden Park Club Room, Wakefields Grove, Camberwell, off Through Rd.



Find us on
Facebook



Paul Daley welcomes the participants at the Saturday Night dinner (Photo by Frances McDougall)



Martin and Tina Smallman were awarded the Ron Hobbs trophy for tenacity and persistence. They are shown here with Rally Director John Stanley at the final dinner of the RACV 1 & 2 Cylinder rally (Photo by Robin Page)



It was excellent to see the steamers out on tour at Bright. They included the 1911 Stanley Steamer of Martin and Tina Smallman, seen here steaming comfortably and in style. (Photo by John Holt)



One of the most interesting entries was the 1903 Grout Stanhope Steamer of Chris and Jenny Sorensen from Queensland. (Photo by John Holt)