

# BACKFIRE

Volume 51 No 11 March 2018

PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219  
[www.wdhvcgeelong.com.au](http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com.au)



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



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to you all,

Can you believe we are now well into 2018? How time goes by!

Our AGM is almost upon us. Please think again about the contributions you can make to further enhance our wonderful club. There will be vacancies on the committee, so please think seriously about making this important commitment to the club.

Membership renewals are also due by 31 March!

Following lots of requests, we are again running the fun car day which was President's Day last year, out at Shea's Lakes!

The trip to the Alma Doepel in Melbourne is also to go ahead in the months to come.

And don't forget, the irrepressible Damien (Gus) Giustini is our guest speaker at the March meeting. Gus will introduce us to the wonders of the revamped website and demonstrate its features.

That's all for now.

Happy motoring,

John

**Photo: President John ponders the woodwork of his newest Morgan. (Check out the progress on the 27 March Tinker Day.)**



# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No 577 OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.  
HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018 at 7.30PM

## PRESIDING

President John Bailey opened the meeting and welcomed No144 members and No4 visitors to the meeting. A special welcome was also extended to guest speaker David Fernyhough. John also noted the recent passing of life member Murray Coster.

## APOLOGIES

Syd Clifton, Peter & Jan Urquhart, Ray van Galen, Bill Guthrie, Kevin Hunter Tiny & Yvonne Stonehouse, Peter & Sandra Boast, Noreen & Gary Mellington, Sandra Batson, Eva Barwise, Lindsay Rodgers, Linda Parker, Alex McLaws and Dallas Jones.

Moved: Jim Coates

Seconded: Graham Cameron Carried

## SICK LIST

Leigh Dwyer, Tom Ivory

## MINUTES

The minutes of the previous general meeting as published in the *Backfire* confirmed as a correct record.

Moved: Max McKenzie

Seconded: Graham Baldock Carried

## CORRESPONDENCE (Fred)

### INWARD

#### Letters In

- MG Car Club – Invitation - Enter Steampacket Garden display on 11<sup>th</sup> March.
- Loddon Shire - Invitation to run rally to their shire.
- Gordon – receipt for printing of Backfire.
- Wimmera Mallee Historical Vehicle Society - Invitation to attend their swap meet and market on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- Melbourne Steam Traction Club – Invitation to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Steam Fest on 10,11 & 12<sup>th</sup> March at Scoresby.
- Resignation - Mr Bernard Ferrier due to ill health.
- Thank you card – Kenneth Hunter for our thoughts on his recent mishap.
- Thank you card – Coral Lehman for our thoughts on the passing of Norm Lehmann's mother.
- Thank you card – Gwen Peacock for our get well wishes on her recent surgery.
- Thank you card – Murray Coster's family for our thoughts and support for Murray's funeral.

- Thank you card – Teena Guistini for our thoughts on her recent illness.

#### Emails In

- Koroit Lions & Warrnambool Drag Racing Assoc. - invitation to attend swap meet and show & shine on 25<sup>th</sup> March at Koroit.
- Colac RSL – Invitation to attend show & shine on 3<sup>rd</sup> March
- Robyn Brooks – Request for a 1960 Rolls Royce white or black for a wedding.
- James Park – request to be included on membership waiting list.
- Gail Donavon – informing members of Tom Ivory's recent illness.
- Werribee & Dist. Collectable Vehicle Club – Invitation to attend show and shine on 4<sup>th</sup> March
- RGAPS. – account for annual rental of the clubrooms.

## OUTWARD

### Letters Out

- Sympathy cards – to the Hannabury family on the passing of John, and to Neil Coster on the passing of life member Murray Coster.
- Get well cards to Gwen Peacock and Teena Guistini.

### Emails Out

- James Park – registering his name on the waiting list.

Moved: Jon Breedveld

Seconded: Jan Clissold Carried

## TREASURER'S REPORT (Maurice)

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

Moved: Rod Booley

Seconded: Max McKenzie Carried

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR (John)

Future speakers are to be Damien (GUS) Guistini and a Forensic Science representative

*(John has since confirmed that Gus will show us the new website at the March meeting. -Ed)*

## LIBRARY (Gary)

Gary reviewed several books currently in the library as well as a report about condoms!! (the mind boggles)

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd

### DINE OUT (Gary)

Scheduled to be at Moorpanyl Park but has had to rescheduled to the clubrooms due to anticipated inclement weather.

### COMMITTEE REPORT (David)

Last meeting 16/1/18

- Steam ship rally details.
- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary photos for sale.
- Log book reminder stickers.
- Merchandise full list in cupboard.
- Membership renewals if paid by post incur an additional \$5 penalty?

### TINKER DAY (Ray)

This Thursday at Murray and Rhonda Foran's commencing at 10.30am

### MARS BAR AWARD (Ray)

Peter Telfer correctly nominated Pat Evans as the person in the photo.

### VEHICLE PERMITS (Gus)

- 3 vehicles registered this month on red plates.
- Important not to alter number plates by bending or cutting.
- Modified cars are a problem with the Magistrates Court.
- Vic Roads has run out of logbooks.
- Vehicles on show for April – Lancia & May – Porsche.
- Make sure permit is signed before going to Vic Roads.

### WEBSITE

Damien (Gus) Guistini is preparing an update for the Clubs website including photos etc.

### TECH NIGHT (Peter)

On 20<sup>th</sup> February. Topic will be on gauges.

### CRAFT NIGHT (Cheryl)

Next project is a craft box. Members to bring their materials.

### RALLY REPORTS

- Last coffee run was to Lara and was well attended.
- Portarlington Mussel Festival was a great show with traffic jams.

### RALLY DIRECTOR (Rod)

Events

- Tinker Day - This Thursday

- Smell the Roses - Feb 17
- Maude BBQ Feb.18
- Geelong Gift Car display at Steampacket Gardens on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb.
- Waterfront Sunday market on 4<sup>th</sup> March
- Highland gathering on 18<sup>th</sup> March
- Federation Rally on 25<sup>th</sup> March. Meet at Inverleigh
- Ladies day rally on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

### SWAP MEET (Fred)

Volunteers to register their names on a sheet at the next meeting.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

- John thanked Neil Remeus for the work he had done in establishing the club website.
- Looking for additional volunteers to join the Wednesday warriors group who carry out small maintenance works in the showgrounds, usually one day per month. Contact Max McKenzie
- Gary Tonkin had recently met with a previous president in Warrick Gillin.
- Due to insufficient numbers there will be no bus going to the Ballarat Swap.

### FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

- Robert Evans is looking for a carburettor for a Holden 186.
- Rod Booley is looking for ball linkages for his Jaguar.
- Bob Thompson has sold his International truck and bought what used to be John Smiths Capri.
- Harold Newton has purchased a Peugeot.

### GUEST SPEAKER

John introduced David Fernyhough, who gave a very interesting presentation on his business which involves plastic, vinyl and leather repairs to internal finishes in the vehicle restoration and aircraft industries.

Meeting closed at 9pm.

***Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 13th March 2018 in the clubrooms.***

- Laurie Mills

## No Feature Vehicle

There was no feature vehicle on display in February as the workshop space was used to collect membership renewals. This will apply again in March, but watch out for the next gleaming vehicle on show in April.



# RALLY & RUNS

## February Tinker Day Report

We once again were well entertained by all the bits and bobs that are at Rhonda and Murray's place.

The garden has been made into a "Quirky Corner", an enchanting place where the "see what you can find" area is, and where anything is possible.

Murray rolled out his old push bikes to reflect on the old days of having only a pushy as your sole means of transport. As is the usual, we dined on wonderful food and cake. Murray even sacrificed some snags on the barby for us to "top up" on for those that really needed them!

Tinker days are all about sitting around for a good old chinwag when the dust settles down and the bellies are full.



A great big thank, you for all the good folk that welcome us into their homes. - Ray van Galen





# RALLY & RUNS

## February Smell the Roses

What a turn up on 17 February!

Here is the list of people, bikes and cars:

1. Ray van Galen on the Honda Shadow,
2. Graham Wilson on the very nice Honda 750 four,
3. Rod Roach on the big mileage eating Goldwing,
4. Bryce Matthews on the 1987 Honda 500 single,
5. Bernie Turner on a spanking new Honda 500,
6. Mick Wright on the wonderful sounding Ducati Panther,
7. Lyle Loffler on a beautiful Honda CBR 1000,
8. Graham Horton on his Honda excellent CB750s,
9. Dallas Jones on the faithful BMW 100 SR,
10. Lil and Jess Vella on a very neat Honda 125,
11. Charles Vella on a late model four stroke Vespa,
12. Manuel Vella on his great big Harley Davidson.

Cars:

1. Bernie and Jean Ellson in a modern car,
2. Merv Baum in his "go forever" Ford Laser,
3. Judith and Ray Matthews in the lovely Capri,
4. Bill and Faye Guthrie in a modern car,
5. Libby and Rod Booley in the famous Stag.

We also had a couple of folks that came along for the ride as invited guests of our members, they were very happy to be part of the ride.

I hope that I have not missed any members but a great day was had by all on our little run to Deans Marsh. The Café went into "shell shock" when we ordered food, as they have nothing prepared in advance at all, not even pies! But it all went well enough on the day.

- Ray van Galen



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## WDHVC EVENTS

**See also -  
calendar summary  
on back page.**

### 27 FEB - TUESDAY

**TECH NIGHT "GAUGES"** 7pm to set up for a 7.30pm start at the clubrooms. Bring along speedos, ammeters, volt meters, fuel gauges, temperature gauges, pressure gauges, vacuum gauges, boost gauges, motometers, tachometers, hour meters, etc. Workshop manuals would also be handy, so we can follow the circuits. Hopefully we will have someone in the audience who can explain things for us. Ladies and visitors are always welcome.

*Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938*

### 1 MRCH - THURSDAY

#### **MORNING COFFEE RUN.**

Meet at clubrooms at 9.45am. The Packing Shed, Woods Rd Moolap.

*Contact: Rod Booley 52815340 (0417 021 982)*

### 4 MAR - SUNDAY

#### **CAR DISPLAY ON GEELONG WATERFRONT**

Cars to be parked by 10am on the sloped lawn beside Cunningham Pier.

*Contact Rod Booley 5281 5340 (0417 021 982)*

### 10-14 MAR

#### **AVOCA WEEKEND RALLY - 25TH ANNIVERSARY**

Avoca Motel is fully booked. If you'd like to join us for this great weekend visiting interesting places, the Pyrenees Motel (mob 0499 009 470) may have vacancies, but you will need to book ASAP.

*Contact: Gary McCredden 5275 2544.*

### 13 MRCH - TUESDAY

#### **GENERAL MEETING** 7.30pm. Clubrooms.

### 14 MRCH - WEDNESDAY

#### **DINE OUT** 6.15pm. Leopold Sportsman's Club, Kensington Rd.

Raid the coin jar and come & join us.

**Dine out news:** Last month the weather forced an abandonment of Moorpanyul Park and instead 17 members sheltered from the gusty, windy conditions and had a great yarn at the clubhouse.

*Contact: Gary McCredden 5275 2544.*

### 15 MRCH - THURSDAY

#### **TINKER DAY** Start time 10.30am from our clubrooms. On this

occasion we are going to visit Graham and Helen Cameron in Grovedale to have a look at the stuff that they have to show us. Bring your own chair, mug, lunch, and drinks.

*Ray van Galen. Home Ph 5278 9368. Mob. 0411 954 865. Barb's Mob. 0408 664 537*

### 17 MRCH - SATURDAY

#### **SMELL THE ROSES DAY.**

10.30am start, **NOT from the clubrooms**, but from the **DRYSDALE TRAIN STATION**. Greg Stephenson has offered to lead this run for us and it will be a costal type of run that finish up at Drysdale at Greg's place for a cuppa and a laugh. This will be good for the slower bikes to come along on and oil up the road a bit.

*Contact: Ray van Galen. Ph 5278 9368*

### 18 MAR - SUNDAY

#### **GEELONG HIGHLAND GATHERING CAR DISPLAY**

Goldsworthy Reserve, Goldsworthy Road, Corio. Members who have already registered to attend will meet at 9.30am, on Matthews Road before Goldsworthy Road corner, to collect their free admission tickets.

*Contact: Rhonda Foran 0409 841 700 or 5248 2553.*

### 20 MRCH - TUESDAY

#### **MARCH COMMITTEE MEETING** 7.30pm.

### 23 MRCH - FRIDAY

#### **MARCH BACKFIRE DEADLINE**

*Contact: Jon Breedveld 0417 311 441*

### 25 MAR - SUNDAY

#### **FEDERATION RALLY AT MORTLAKE**

Meet at Inverleigh at 9.30am. BYO everything.

*Contact Rod Booley 5281 5340 (0417 021 982)*

### 27 MRCH - TUESDAY

#### **TECH NIGHT** John Bailey's shed (73 Shell Road, Ocean Grove.).

Meet at the clubrooms at 7pm, and car pool to John's, or go straight to John's, arriving at 7.30pm. We will study John's newly-acquired Morgan, which has suffered badly in a smash. John is just the right man to rebuild a timber framed body, and he will show us what needs to be done.

No "English car - drip tray" comments please, as this Morgan has a Ford motor, and we all know that English Fords are far superior to all other English cars. Even if you have never been to a Tech Night, you are very welcome. As usual, ladies and visitors are welcome.

*Contact: Peter Telfer 0427 526 938*

**5 APRIL - THURSDAY**

Meet at clubrooms at 9.45am.

**MORNING COFFEE RUN.**

Contact: Rod Booley 5281 5340 (0417 021 982)

**22 APRIL - SUNDAY**

**LADIES DAY RALLY.** Details later.

**25th APRIL - WEDNESDAY -**

**ANZAC DAY BREAKFAST RUN TO BARWON HEADS**

SUPPLIED - bacon, eggs, bread, boiling water, tea, coffee, sugar, milk.

BYO - table, chairs, crockery, cutlery and anything else you require.

If you want to bring something to cook and stay for lunch, the BBQ will be there for your use until after lunch.

Please add your name to our list at the meeting or ring Murray Foran on 5248 2553 or 0409 841 700 so we can organise our catering purchases. NEW MEMBERS: please make an effort to join our breakfast run and meet our group of great people.

Contact: Murray Foran on 5248 2553 or 0409 841 700.

**? MAY - SUNDAY**

**SEA SICK RALLY.** Details Later.

***OTHER EVENTS- 2018***

**10-11 MAR**

**CASTERTON MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB ANNUAL TOUR**

**11 MAR - SUNDAY**

**MG CAR CLUB STEAM PACKET DISPLAY**

Invitation for WDHVC MG-owning members to attend.

**18 MAR - SUNDAY**

**WYCHEPROOF LIONS CLUB SHOW & SHINE**

**18 MAR - SUNDAY**

**PYRENEES HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB MOTOR SPIRIT MANIA**

**30 MARCH - FRIDAY**

**INVERLEIGH GOOD FRIDAY ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

**APPEAL** Car Display and more. Victoria Park Inverleigh.

**14 APRIL- SATURDAY**

**ECHUCA SWAP MEET**

Rotary Park, Rose St. Sites \$20. Entry \$5. Call 0456 010 665 [echucaswap@outlook.com](mailto:echucaswap@outlook.com)

**29 APRIL- SUNDAY**

**SWAN HILL SWAP MEET**

Showgrounds, cnr McCallum & High Sts. Sites \$20. Entry \$5. Contact: Craig 0419 574 414.

**LAST SUN EVERY MONTH**

**Werribee & District Collectable Vehicle Club Inc meet.**

9am to noon (weather permitting) car park cnr. Cherry St & Kelly St Werribee. Free entry. Have a bite to eat and a coffee. Talk car stuff with car-minded people. Jeff 0412 705 245. John 0407 546 235.

- Rod Booley

## **MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE**

### **Important notice**

**WDHVC membership fees are due by  
31 March 2018.**

Enclosed with your last printed and emailed *Backfire* was a membership form which must be filled in and received by the Western District Historic Vehicle Club with your membership fees by **31 March 2018**.

Monies will be collected between 6:30pm and 7:30pm before the meeting.

**No money will be accepted without a completed membership renewal form.**

If you have red plated cars registered with our club and we have not received your completed membership form and money by 31 March 2018, will no longer be eligible to drive your red plate vehicle.

If you no longer wish to be a member, please either email or post your resignation to the secretary, Fred Harris.



# The World's Worst Cars?

This month *Backfire* includes a car dubbed a "Financial Failure" in the book *The World's Worst Cars*. Please don't take offence if your car features in this segment - the series is only a bit of fun to add to our magazine. And after all, the views expressed are only one man's opinion!

As taken from *The World's Worst Cars* by Craig Cheetham

## FINANCIAL FAILURES

*"When it comes to a car being a flop, it's fair to say that a car which bankrupts its manufacturer is a pretty spectacular dud. And many of the vehicles in this selection did just that - huge development costs, appalling sales records and a complete lack of showroom appeal meant their makers could never recoup the enormous investment required to bring the car to market. ...Some did not lose money in themselves, but acquired such an appalling reputation that the damage they did to their makers' reputations meant the losses suffered later on were immense."*

### LANCIA BETA (1972-85)

#### **Specifications**

TOP SPEED: 171KM/H (106MPH)

0-96KMH (0-60MPH); 10.8 SECS

ENGINE TYPE IN-LINE 4

DISPLACEMENT: 1592CC (92CI)

WEIGHT: 1076KG (2392LB)

MILEAGE: 10.0L/100KM (28MPG)

It's amazing how the failure of one model can completely destroy a manufacturer's reputation. That's exactly what happened with the Lancia Beta. Touted as the car that would transform Lancia, it did: to a crumbling relic of its former self.

The Beta's story is tragic, for in design terms it was excellent, a spacious and stylish car that was entertaining to drive and was available as a saloon, coupe, convertible or estate, offering everything that a model range needed. But with Fiat in control and the resultant need to cut costs seriously, Lancia used cheap, brought-in metal, and the quality was atrocious. Betas would start to corrode before they'd even left the showrooms, and owners would see their cars practically melt away before their very eyes as rust took a hold.

A high-profile media expose destroyed sales after British newspaper the Daily Mirror found a batch of brand-new Betas that had already been welded before delivery to customers.

Later cars were far, far better, but by that time Lancia found out the hard way that mud really does stick when nobody bought one.

Rumour has it that the British importer, faced with storage costs for a field full of cars it couldn't sell, simply scrapped them instead to save itself the money.

The Beta's rust problem was so bad that the engine mounts literally disintegrated, causing the engine block to fall out if the car went over a particularly bad bump.

Rust manifested itself almost anywhere on the Beta's shell. The use of cheap metal meant that the sills, doors, trunk floor, front firewall, valance, scuttle and floorpans were all susceptible to corrosion. Ironically, the Beta was in all other respects a brilliantly designed car, with a well-planned interior, strong twin-cam engines and exceptionally good handling for its class.

The Lancia Beta Saloon range from 3,766, Coupe 4,475, H.P.E. 5,826, English pounds.

A LESSON IN ECONOMICS. With Beta, Lancia made the fatal decision to cut costs on the body-work. Although it looked good, customers barely got the car home before it started to disintegrate.



- Graham Pretlove

# RALLY & RUNS

## Old Skills Revived at January Dine Out

Merv Baum brought along his quoits set for the January Dine Out and added something a little different to the occasion, which was held on the Queenscliff foreshore.

Members enjoyed the chance to revive old skills.





## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Western District Historic Vehicles Club Inc. will be held on Tuesday, 10 April 2018, following the normal meeting starting at 7:30pm.

Members are requested to bring a plate of supper.

Nominations for the committee and office bearers must be handed in by the end of the March meeting.

**Fred Harris**  
Secretary



**Best Buy**  
FOR COMFORT, SAFETY  
AND PERFORMANCE

**Olympic**  
*air-ride*  
**TYRES**

100% Australian ... Champions of the Road  
OT 11.24.50  
A PRODUCT OF THE OLYMPIC TYRE & RUBBER CO. LTD.

### Quotes About Cars

"If one day the speed kills me don't be sad because I will have died smiling"

- Paul Walker

## GEELONG BAY CITY SWAP MEET

 **12th May 2018** 

### VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!!!

The Swap Meet has been running annually for many years and, pleasingly, gets better each year. The event is an important one for our club, but would not be possible without the generous support of our many volunteers, who volunteer their time in the lead up to, and on the day.

At the April and May meetings, we will require members who wish to volunteer, to register their interest with either Kevin Smith or Murray Foran.

### VOLUNTEERS DINNER & INFORMATION NIGHT Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017

A dinner followed by an information session will be held on this night in our Clubrooms, for all volunteers. This lovely dinner is provided by our wonderful lady members, and will commence at 6:30pm.

A comprehensive information session will follow the dinner and comprise a list of all duties that volunteers will undertake in the lead up and during the Swap Meet, together with rostering and emergency procedures.

This is your opportunity to ask any questions that you may have to ensure things run smoothly on the day.

Enquiries - Fred Harris,  
Swap Director  
(03) 5259 2053

### SET UP DAY - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018

On this day, we will need assistance from plenty of volunteers to help with the set up of the arena ahead of the Swap Meet the following day.

Morning tea and a BBQ lunch will be provided to volunteers attending. The more hands on deck we have, the quicker we will get the job done: we would be grateful if you are able to assist, even if it only be for an hour or two.

Fred Harris  
Swap Director  
(03) 5259 2053

### SWAP DAY! Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2018

We will be looking forward to another successful Swap Meet, and thank you again our generous volunteers.



Western District Historic Vehicle Club Inc

# GEELONG BAY CITY SWAP MEET



Sat. 12th May 2018



**Geelong Showgrounds**

(Melway Ref 452 E10)

Plenty of room for displays. Bargains for motorists, restorers, collectors, craft enthusiasts, DIY mechanics etc.

**7am start**

**Admission: Adults \$5 Children free**

Outdoor sites (10m X 6 m) \$10 plus \$5 admission charge.  
(No booking required for outdoor sites)

*AREA FOR DISPLAY AND SALE OF SPECIAL INTEREST VEHICLES*

Overnight camp sites available for stallholders only.

Food available on Friday evening from 4pm to 8pm.

Geelong mobile ATM facilities available on site.

**ENQUIRIES:**

Phone: **0417 546 089**

Mail: WDHVC PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219

STRICTLY NO DOGS ALLOWED IN SHOWGROUNDS NO FIRES PERMITTED  
NO UNAUTHORISED FOOD VENDORS  
NO RIDING OF SKATEBOARDS, BICYCLES, MOTOR BIKES OR  
RECREATIONAL VEHICLES IN SHOWGROUNDS

**PARKING FOR NON SELLERS IN  
RACECOURSE, BESIDE SHOWGROUNDS**



# Affordable British Classics

## Rover P6

- first published in *Popular Classics* magazine,  
November 1999

**I**NTRODUCED in October 1963, the Rover 2000 was technically very advanced, and was quite a departure for Rover, moving away from the rather grandiose styling of earlier models towards a lower, sportier appearance.

The P6 was destined to be produced alongside the P5 and P5B cars for many years and both ranges succeeded well in appealing to different buyers.

The 2000 was an innovative car, powered by a new, single overhead camshaft 1978cc engine, through an all-synchro four-speed gearbox. It used independent front suspension, with a De Dion type rear arrangement. Servo-assisted disc brakes were fitted all round; the rear ones were mounted inboard and have always presented problems for d-i-y servicing.

A twin carburettor model, the TC, was announced in late 1966, featuring a modified cylinder head, oil cooler and rev counter. At the same time, automatic transmission was added to the range options.



3500 model from 1972 borrowed P5B's light-alloy V8

Four years later the restyled Series 2 cars were introduced, easily distinguishable with their honeycomb grilles, black sills and revised wheel trims.

After another three years, in 1973, the 2000 was replaced by the larger bore 2200, which also had bigger valves and a larger fuel tank.

These continued in

production until late 1977.

An important development for the P6 was the 3500, known initially after its 1968 launch as the Three Thousand Five. Fitting tightly into the engine bay was the light alloy 3528cc V8 used for the first time in the P5B the previous year. Transmission for this model was a three-speed auto 'box.

The 3500S, available from October 1971, had manual transmission, and rapidly became popular among sports-minded drivers. Last model of this very desirable and highly competent car was the 3500 VIP produced in 1976, the final year of manufacture. All P6 models are excellent cars, the 3.5-litre models especially so because of their superb performance. Their ride quality is equalled by few modern cars.

They rust in the usual places, but potential buyers should also be prepared for problems with the rear brakes, because of poor access. All the engines last particularly well.

Expect to pay about £1500 for a 3500 in average condition.

### ENGINE/POWER

1978cc/90bhp, 1978cc TC/114bhp  
2204cc/98bhp, 2204cc TC/115bhp  
3528cc/143bhp

**SPEED** ..... 100-115mph

**PRODUCTION** ..... 1963-76

**ECONOMY** ..... 17-26mpg

## “Quirky Corner” a feature of Jan Tinker Day

Those who visited the Forans' garden in January were treated to some quirky signposted items sprinkled about the place. Here are a few examples. (Photos Gus Giustini)



(above) “The Odd Couple”  
(below) the “Ringside Seat”



The “Unfixabell”



“Way Out”  
“Good Luck”

“1905 Water Cooler”



# Great Mars Bar Competition

## The March Competition



This month's handsome young devil is contemplating what he will do for a living when he grows up a bit more, while his Mum tries to get a good photo of him while he is still young and good looking and has no grey hair.

I can say that he has probably driven more vehicles and done more miles than most of us in his time.

See if you are good enough to work out who this little chap is and win yourself a whopping big Mars Bar in the process.

- Ray van Galen

### More photos needed

Please sneak in your photo submissions to:

Ray van Galen  
Ph 52789 368,  
or  
email [rbvangalen@gmail.com](mailto:rbvangalen@gmail.com)



# SALES, WANTED & CLUES

## For Sale

1. Genesis Ultra car cover L/XL in very good clean condition - \$35.
  2. Packard Service Manual 55th Series. Excellent condition - \$50.
  3. Glenn's New Auto Repair Manual 1964 edition 1024 pages covering 12 years of American cars. excellent condition - \$45.
  4. Motors Auto Repair Manual 1962 covers American cars 1953-62 in very good condition - \$45.
  5. Newnes Motor Repair books in 4 volumes and charts covering a wide variety of British cars and commercial vehicles. In excellent condition - \$120.
- Karl Lorenz Ph 5284 1451. ...3/18

1929 Dodge Tourer. Model DB A 6 cylinder. Light blue with black top. Excellent condition. Includes spare engine and gearbox, diff housing and gears, rear shafts and other items. Full registration until Nov 2018, (Reg DOJA 29. I am looking for \$32,000. Don Jarvie 0429 303 083... 2/18



## Clues

General Sale, 9am 17/3/18, old Callaghan Motors site, Fairy St Warrnambool. Various lots (furniture, excess workshop equipment, signs and memorabilia from the various marques . Auctioneer Bruce Ludeman. Details - Nick Neeson.

For sale/wanted ads are free to Members and appear for two issues of *Backfire*. To remove advertisements from the [newsletter](#) email

[editor@wdhvcgeelong.com.au](mailto:editor@wdhvcgeelong.com.au) (Ph 0417 311 441)

**Reminder:** All vehicles in the "For Sales" must have VIN number & Price or Registration Number & Price, otherwise they will be listed under "Clues".

Ads for the 'Clues' section must not refer to any payment that may take place by mentioning an amount or 'best offer', etc.

All ads for cars also appear on the **club web site** where greater detail and photos (where supplied) can be viewed. To see ads, go to <http://www.wdhvcgeelong.com.au/wdsale.html>

**All ads remain on the website until you request their removal.** To remove an ad from the website, email [webd3sign@wdhvcgeelong.com.au](mailto:webd3sign@wdhvcgeelong.com.au) (Ph 0418 587 415)

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BACKFIRE



Austin Healey Sprite Mk 111

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27 Craft/Tech Night "GAUGES" 7pm Clubrooms	28 February	1 Morning Coffee Run - Clubrooms 9.45am	2	3
4 Geelong Waterfront Car Display	5	6	7	8	9	10-14 Avoca Weekend Rally 25th Anni. Casterton Tour
11 MG Club Display Steam Packet Gardens	12	13 General Meeting 7.30pm Clubrooms	14 Dine Out Leopold Sportsman's Club 6.15pm	15 Tinker Day 10.30am Clubrooms	16	17 Smell the Roses 10.30am <u>DRYSDALE R'LWAY STATION</u>
18 Geelong Highland Gathering 9.30am Goldsworthy Rd	19	20 Committee Meeting 7.30pm	21	22	23 April 2018 <i>Backfire</i> Deadline	24
25 Federation Rally, Mortlake. 9.30am Inverleigh	26	27 Craft/Tech Night Bailey's Shed 7pm Clubrooms	28	29	30 Good Friday Childrns Hospital Appeal, Inverleigh	31
E A S T E R						
1 April	2	3	4	5 Morning Coffee Run - Clubrooms 9.45am	6	9
E A S T E R						