

BACKFIRE

Volume 50 No 6 October 2016

PO Box 200 Newcomb VIC 3219
www.wdhvcgeelong.com.au



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



1958 Maico 500



1935 Datsun Roadster



1958 Burgfalke FB250



1958 Zuendapp Janus



1950s Morris Minor convertible



1948 Mochet Type K



1947 Julien MM5



1956 Heinkel Kabine 153



1959 Frisky Family Three



1949 Fiat Topolino



1933 Standard Superior



1953 Manocar Prototype



1947 ALCA Volpe



1959 Oppermann Unicar



1955 Nami Belka.



1966 Peel Trident

*Backfire is the monthly newsletter of the Western District Historic Vehicle Club (Reg No A00011857H).
Member of the Federation of Victorian Veteran, Vintage & Classic Vehicle Clubs.*

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi to all,

We are presently enjoying the music festival in Mildura.

If anyone has any ideas for our 50th please put it in writing and give it to a committee member, as our subcommittee will soon have our first meeting to start planning for our 50th.

Cheers from Mildura,

John



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No 560 OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.
HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON TUESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2016 at 7.30PM

PRESIDING

President John Bailey opened the meeting and welcomed members and visitors to meeting number 560.

VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS

Scott Pigdon from the Revival spoke about the upcoming Revival on the 25th, 26th & 27th Nov and the need for pre registered volunteers to do 6 hour shifts with the club receiving \$35/person/shift. It is the 60th Anniversary this year of the Speed Trials and they are also doing a Hill Climb in the Eastern Gardens. The Classic Motor Show is free this year and they have a position on the committee available.

APOLOGIES

Teena and Damien Guistini, Betty Jenkins, Bob Thompson, Annette Marshall, Rhonda and Murray Foran, David Koch, Glenys Turner, Murray Coster, John Wallace, Noreen Mellington, Alan Tipper, Linda Parker, Raelene Pretlove, Len Miller, Nance and Duncan McIntosh, Mick Wright, Lindsay Hose, Keith Murdock, Jim Duran, Rob and Lyn Anderson.

Moved Jim Coates Seconded Graham Cameron
Carried

SICK LIST

Linda Parker, Pauline Newton.
It was noted that sadly Trish Simpson passed away.

MINUTES

Moved Rod Booley Seconded Gary Mellington that the minutes of the previous general meeting as published in the *Backfire* be confirmed as a correct record.
Carried

CORRESPONDENCE INWARD

Letters

- Bendigo bank- 2 statements
- The Gordon- statement and a cheque for \$143 refund
- Artisan Signs- receipt for labels for car photos.
- RGAPS- requesting our assistance for gate duties, display of vehicles and assistance with movement of tractors for Machinery parades and the use of our clubroom for the Geelong Arts Society during the coming Show 15th, 16th, 17th & 18th October
- Jim Duran- application form to go on the waiting list for club membership.
- Sign and Badge Centre- name badges
- Geelong Revival- requesting volunteers from our club to help run the forthcoming revival
- Wings and Wheels Maryborough- invitation to attend on 24th & 25th Sept

Emails

- Warrnambool Chapter of the Razorbacks Social Club- inviting our members to display cars and motorcycles at Lake Pertobe on 29th Oct
- National Trust- if our club is interested in group bookings at any of the 10 Victorian Heritage Sites
- Slimline Trestles- outstanding account for the new chairs
- Karen Shaw- Geelong and Surf Coast Living Magazine thanking our members for bringing in their vehicles for the magazine story
- RGAPS Vintage Machinery Section- an invitation to display our vehicles at the 2017 Geelong Classic and Machinery Show on the 7th & 8th Jan 2017
- Drysdale Autopro Classic Car & Bike Show- an invitation to attend their event on 7th & 8th Jan 2017

CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARD

Letters

- Geelong Revival- requesting a representation from their committee to come to one of our monthly meetings regarding volunteering for their event
- Sympathy card to Noel Simpson on the passing of his wife Trish

Moved Peter Telfer Seconded Leonie Saliba
Carried

TREASURER REPORT

Maurice presented the report on receipts and payments since the previous meeting and presented accounts to be passed for payment.
Moved Maurice Healy Seconded Cheryl Elliot
Carried

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Next month we will have our Editor Jon Breedveld give a talk on Africa, where his son is living and recently got married.

LIBRARY

Gary Mc Credden spoke on the Mc Feeter's Motor Museum in Forbes he visited recently and a variety of interesting books from the library.

Gary thanked the Committee, Fred Harris and Graeme Pretlove for the new shelves they organized and built in the Library

DINE OUT

At the Waurm Ponds Hotel. 12 (x2) members indicated they would attend.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ctd

EDITOR

Jon Breedveld reminded members of the deadline for the *Backfire* articles is Friday week. Please let him know if you do not receive your electronic copy of the *Backfire*.

FEDERATION REPORT

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORT

As per report in the *Backfire*

TINKER DAY

Next Tinker day is on the 29th Sept and will start from the club rooms at 10 am. we will be going to "Hire a Combi".

Peter Telfer thanked Ray and Barb van Galen for their fabulous Tinker days

MARS BAR AWARD

Colin Chappell guessed it was Judith Matthews in the photo and received his Mars Bar

VEHICLE PERMITS

- Gus explained that Vic Roads needs to be informed if a Red Plate owner passes away.
- Log Books need to be filled in on the day used not in advance.
- If any WDHVC Red Plate member sells their car they must inform Gus.
- In Melbourne, 4,000 Red plate vehicles had their red plates cancelled due to being used for commercial use.

CRAFT NIGHT

Cheryl reported on this month's craft will be Christmas cards. Kits will be available for a minimal cost.

RALLY REPORTS

- Sharyn Harris gave a report on the Meredith Run.
- Gus Shea gave a report on the Ford Factory visit.
- Ken Parker gave a report on the Drysdale Vintage Display Day
- Gus Shea gave a report on the casserole day and said how good it was to see Murray Coster, Ray Trigg and John Whiting enjoying the day.
- The ladies were thanked for putting on such a great meal and everyone enjoyed the day.

RALLY EVENTS

Future rallies are as detailed in the *Backfire*.

- 14/09/16 - 23/09/16 Long Distance Rally (Contact Sharyn Harris 0417 546 089)

- 18/09/16 Mt Franklin Picnic BYO picnic (Contact Peter Kemp Ph 0407 513 541)
- 25/09/16 Lunch run to Drysdale Hotel (Contact Gary Mellington Ph 5245 6641)
- 09/10/16 President's Rally
- details as per the *Backfire*.
- 16/10/16 RGAPS require cars for display
- 21/10/16 Costa Aged Care Lara Car Display (Contact Rod Booley Ph 5281 5340)
- 23/10/16 Back to Stieglitz Car display (Contact Rod Booley Ph 5281 5340)

LONG DISTANCE RALLY

We leave tomorrow for 10 days away. For those not coming this year think about coming along next year: we all have fun.

TECH NIGHT

Peter detailed the next tech night to be a "Photo Night" bring along your photos for a show and tell night with your photos of cars.

SWAP MEET

Being on Facebook has proved popular with some people. Gus is organizing a drone to take photos next year.

KITCHEN

Nil

RGAPS REPORT

Nil

GENERAL BUSINESS

Due to the Long Distance Rally, the Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday 29th Sept.

Next month's General Meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of the month, NOT the second, due to the Geelong Show.

Next month's meeting is on 4th October.

Mark Crouch is the new RGAPS CEO

FOR SALES, WANTED & CONFESSIONS

John Hickford has sold his race car. It was a replica of one he had and raced in the 50s. Dallas Jones is looking for some workshops to run a "Round the Workshops" day.

GUEST SPEAKER

Geoffrey Fiffer is a volunteer MCC guide and he gave a talk on his work as a guide and also some interesting historic facts about the MCG.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 4th October in the clubrooms.

Chevrolet - world's best all-rounder

Although no longer the cheap car that it was before the war, Chevrolet is still the type of car sought after by the majority of Australians, and if supplies were available it would, without any doubt, be the sales leader here as it is in America. Actually Chevrolet is still the world's sales leader even though it is excluded from the Australian market by the dollar restrictions.

Practical attractive lines, plenty of room combined with powerful yet economical performance make Chevrolet top favourite with motorists all over the world.

Big and handsome, Chevrolet offers more from a practical motoring point of view than probably any other car in the world. It offers reliability, speed, reasonable economy for its size, accommodation for six people plus an enormous amount of luggage space, all combined in an attractive smoothly styled vehicle, completely up-to-the-minute in design.

Well proved engine

The well proved six cylinder overhead valve engine is retained on the latest model. Rated at 29.6 hp it develops 92 brake horsepower at the relatively low speed of 3400 rpm, probably the main reason for its long life.

Although Powerglide automatic transmission is an optional feature in America, the Australian model is equipped with a standard type three speed synchromesh gearbox, with a steering column change lever. The suspension is by independent coil springs at the front end and long semi elliptic springs at the rear. Hydraulic brakes complete a picture of a thoroughly modern and efficient chassis.

Attractive body lines

The body is modern and practical. The relatively short bonnet, combined with a wide, curved windscreen, gives good forward visibility while a very large rear window offers a good view to the rear. Front wings are faired into the sides and a large rear deck housing and a useful size luggage compartment extends to the rear.

The seats are wide and comfortable, plenty of room being provided for three people in both front and rear compartments. The interior is simply and attractively appointed and ventilation is provided for by four no draft ventilators.



Good all round performance

On the road the Chevrolet is a smooth, fast and comfortable. Acceleration, while not outstanding, is more than adequate to meet the requirements of the average driver. It is essentially a top gear car with its top gear speed ranging from below 10 mph to 85 mph and a top gear acceleration which enables it to pick up from 20 to 50 mph in a little over 11 seconds.

With its overall backend ratio of 4.1 to 1 the Chevrolet gave a delightful performance on the open road – with effortless cruising between 60 and 70 mph. The driving position is good, and all controls are conveniently placed. The driving seat is fully adjustable and gives plenty of back support on long country runs. The instruments are well grouped and mounted conveniently in front of the driver.

No effort on hills

Hills were no effort to the Chevrolet, and gradients of up to 1 in 10 were taken with effortless ease. Corners were not so good, and at speed the car has a definite tendency to roll. This however is a normal characteristic of most American cars with soft, coil spring type suspension.

However over a very rough section of the road suspension proved capable of giving a very comfortable ride at almost any road speed. The steering was very firm and at high speed held the car on its course without any transmission of road shocks through the steering wheel.

Good brakes

An outstanding feature of the current model Chevrolet is its hydraulic braking system, which from a steady 30 mph stopped the car in approximately 32 feet. For a car of this size this is an excellent feature.

Economy

Actually, on the test Chevrolet gave little sensation of speed and passengers in the rear seat on average open roads, would not be aware of whether they were doing 50 or 70 mph. The overall economy of the car was good, and it averaged in the vicinity of 25 mpg at 30 mph. At the average speed of 40 mph it turned in 21 mpg which for a car of this size is excellent going. There is no question about the fact that, but for the dollar situation, Chevrolet would be by far the most popular car on the Australian market.

New features on the 1951-52 models

- Alterations to motor include a redesigned carburettor give better performance and economy and slightly increased compression ratio.
- Completely redesigned braking system providing more efficiency with easier operation.
- New tail lamp arrangement.
- Redesigned parking lamps.

Specifications

Engine: six cylinder overhead valve engine 3548 cc rated at 29.6 hp and developing 92 brake horsepower at 3400 rpm. Bore 88.9 X stroke 95.2 mm.

Transmission: single plate clutch, three speed synchromesh gearbox with steering column lever. Gear ratios: first 12.08; second 6.9; top 4.1 to 1.

Suspension: Independent front suspension with coil springs, long semi elliptic springs at rear. Hydraulic shock absorbers.

Brakes: hydraulic two leading shoe brakes mechanically operated by pull out type handbrake.

Wheels: 15 inch steel disc wheels with 7.6" x 15" tyres

Overall measurements: wheelbase 9'6"; overall length 16'8"; width 5'5^{3/4}"; ground clearance 8". track (front) 4' 9" (rear) 4' 10^{3/4}".

Weight: 3291 lbs

Latest colour range

Alder green – red leather.
Serge blue – grey leather.
Barton grey – red leather.

Facts about the Chevrolet

Price: £1459, including sales tax 20%.

Type: six passenger sedan.

Size: medium

Horsepower: 29.6 hp developing 92 brake horsepower at 3400 rpm.

Capacity: 3548 cc.

Weight: 3291 lbs.

Fuel consumption: 21 mpg at normal driving speeds. Maximum speed 85 mph.

Tyre size: 7.60" x 15".

Turning circle: 42 feet

Performance data

Acceleration through the gears:

0 to 30 mph six seconds

0 to 40 mph nine seconds

0 to 50 mph 13 ½ seconds.

Acceleration in upper ratios:

Top 20 – 40 mph in eight seconds.

20 to 50 mph in 11 seconds.

Standing quarter mile: 21 seconds

Fuel consumption at normal driving speeds: 21 mpg

*the Australian Monthly Motor Manual
February 1952*



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WDHVC EVENTS

See also -
monthly calendar
on back page.

29 SEPTEMBER – THURSDAY.

TINKER DAY.

Leaving the clubrooms at 10am, to go to a place called "Hire a Kombi" situated along the Bellarine Highway. George there has quite a lot to show us. Bring your own mug, chair, and lunch as usual because we will need to be self-sufficient on the day. We will find a nice spot to have our munchies. Ray van Galen. Ph 5278 9368.

4 OCTOBER - TUESDAY

GENERAL MEETING 7.30pm Clubrooms

One week early this month to accommodate the set up for the Geelong Show.

5 OCTOBER - WEDNESDAY

DINE OUT 6-6.30pm Great Western Hotel

Parking off Aberdeen St. If you are game, put your hand in your purse then come and join us for a good feed. Contact Gary 0427 752 544.

9 OCTOBER - SUNDAY

PRESIDENT'S RALLY.

This will be a fun day of driving to test your skills! Blind fold driving, barrel racing and more. Cars supplied. BBQ & meat provided. Bring everything else. Leaving the Clubrooms at 10am

20 OCTOBER - THURSDAY

TINKER DAY

Please note that due to the Geelong Show, we will be starting our run from the **Drysdale Tourist Railway Station** at 11am this time.

We will proceed to leak a little oil all the way along the coast road, as there will be several British cars on the run, until we get to Fred and Sharyn Harris's place in Portarlington to have a squizzy at what Fred is up to in his shed.

Sharyn suggested to me that she may even cremate some snags for us to supplement our own lunch. The usual applies, BYO everything, lunch, chair, mug, and mostly your sense of humour.

British vehicle owners, if your car does not leak oil on the day, it is most likely out of oil. Remember the Lucas warning on their fuse boxes, "Be home before dark"

Ray van Galen. Ph 5278 9368.



21 OCTOBER - FRIDAY

COSTA AGED CARE LARA, CAR DISPLAY.

Cars wanted for Display. (12.30 to 2.30pm, Afternoon Tea supplied) Contact Rod Booley, 5281 5340

25 OCTOBER - THURSDAY

CRAFT/TECH NIGHT

A "Photo Night" bring along your photos for a show and tell night with your photos of cars.

6 NOVEMBER - SUNDAY

NAKED RADIATOR RUN

More info at October Meeting.

8 NOVEMBER - TUESDAY

GENERAL MEETING 7.30pm Clubrooms

17 NOVEMBER - THURSDAY

TINKER DAY

22 NOVEMBER - THURSDAY

CRAFT/TECH NIGHT

10 DECEMBER – SATURDAY

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE.

Pre-dinner drinks and nibbles supplied; 2 course dinner, catered by Superb Spit Roast, and lots of door prizes drawn throughout the evening. Tickets available at October Meeting. Please contact Rhonda or Jeanette to secure a seat for this great end-of-year function.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (ctd)

See also -
monthly calendar
on back page.

OTHER CLUB EVENTS

13 - 16 OCTOBER

GEELONG SHOW

23 OCTOBER - SUNDAY

BACK TO STEIGLITZ,

Cars wanted for Display. Contact Rod Booley, 5281 5340 – 0417 021 982.

FRI 28 OCT TO TUES 1 NOV

WARRAGUL RALLY

The Warragul Rally will be held on the Melbourne Cup weekend in November. I have been in touch with the Warragul Gardens Holiday Park and they have a number of cabins at the park for us to rent for the weekend.

For further details please ring Sharyn Harris 5259 2053 or 0417 546 089.

SAT 12 & SUN 13 NOVEMBER

BENDIGO NATIONAL SWAP MEET

Holmes Rd Bendigo Site enquiries 0427 446 660. General enquiries 0434 730 822.
Details www.bendigowrap.com.au. Email info@bendigowrap.com.au

SAT 7 & SUN 8 JANUARY 2017

GEELONG CLASSIC TRUCK & MACHINERY SHOW

Sat 9am-5pm. Sun 9am-3pm. Geelong Showgrounds.
Vintage machinery; tractor pull; classic cars, vintage trucks.

Volunteers wanted for gate. Contact Angela Reynolds
- secretary@classictruckandmachinery.com.au

More info - www.facebook.com/classictruckandmachinery



SAT 7 & SUN 8 JANUARY 2017

DRYSDALE CLASSIC CAR & BIKE SHOW

The Cruise on Saturday Evening at 5.30 pm and the Show, Sunday from 10 am.
All About Traffic Management, will take care of the Cruisers on Saturday night.
On Sunday the Old Skool Car Club will be looking after marshalling and parking of show vehicles.
Measures will be taken to eliminate the dust problem of last year, to protect your vehicles.

**WDHVC October
General Meeting
4 October 2016 7.30pm**

*To be held one week earlier than usual to
accommodate the set up for the Geelong Show.*

**Geelong Show 2016
OCTOBER
13 14 15 16**

Affordable British Classics

Austin A40 Farina

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

THE popular A35 was such a good car that it would be a hard act to follow. However, in 1958 BMC came up with a worthy successor, clothed in the very modern, Farina-designed, shape of the A40 Farina.

Although it was based on the A35's mechanical components, the new car could not have looked more different. It felt very different, too, both for passengers and driver, with a better ride, more relaxed cruising and a generally livelier feel.

The car was to provide strong opposition to rival manufacturers from 1959, when the Ford Anglia and Triumph Herald were launched, and was also against tough internal forces, in the form of the revolutionary Issigonis-designed Mini.

This new A40 began life with the same 948cc version of the A-series engine used in the A35, changing to the more powerful 1098cc version in the Mk II in late 1962. For the first year of the Mk II the original engine was used.



The Mk II had a longer wheelbase, further improving the ride as well as giving more space for rear-seat passengers. This version, especially with the bigger engine, is a pleasant car to drive in modern traffic and will cruise all day close to the motorway speed limit. The anti-roll bar fitted to the Mk II

reduces body roll considerably and the car can be driven quite enthusiastically, especially when lightly loaded.

Engines, gearbox and running gear are all particularly robust, with parts easy to obtain. The body, however, is more prone to rust than the A35's; check

An A40 racing at Brands Hatch on May 10, 1959

carefully the front wings and bulkheads, as well as carrying out the usual inspection of floor and sills.

Some panels can be difficult to obtain.

The interiors are quite plain, and repairs to upholstery and trim are not too difficult.

The A40 is one of the few models from the early sixties that can be used for everyday transport, and is a particularly useful load carrier despite its compact dimensions. Expect to pay around £500 for an average, usable model, and £1500 or so for a particularly good example.

ENGINE/POWER

Mk I 948cc/37bhp
Mk II 1098cc/48bhp

SPEED

Mk I 75mph
Mk II 80mph

PRODUCTION

MK I 1959-'61
MK II 1961-'67

ECONOMY 35-43mpg

Scribe Wanted

After over six years of service, our dedicated Minute Secretary, Raelene Pretlove, has resigned

so ...

we need a new volunteer to take the minutes at the monthly general meetings.

This is an opportunity for a fresh face to take on an important task and contribute to the running of our club.

Recording the minutes is a great way to gain a greater insight into how the club works!

Talk to Raelene for more details (5243 7757).

Red Plate Holders

Just a reminder to process your permit **BEFORE IT EXPIRES, OR A ROADWORTHY WILL BE REQUIRED.**

Also if you have changed your red plate from WDHVC over to another club, **please** contact Gus Shea, so he can remove you from our WDHVC red plate register.

We want our members to enjoy every minute of their vehicles and don't want any disappointments, as there are some fabulous runs coming up.

Happy Motoring!

TINKER DAY -18 August

We all met at the club rooms and then ventured out to "U Turn" in Furner Ave North Geelong.

We were given a talk on the work they do there for some of our misplaced youth with disabilities that need some mentoring and understanding. These youths are taught some basic mechanical, panel beating and carpentry skills, which gives them some much-needed confidence. They also teach youth that don't fit into the school system, due to many personal and economic reasons.

The youth they help require less structure than our school system and require very patient and caring mentors to help them either fit back into our school system or into some form of employment if possible.

The men that spoke to us who teach these skills all have a heart of gold and unending patience and a belief in our misplaced youths that come through their doors at U Turn.

After touring through the different areas of U Turn and our talks we all ventured to the van Galens' home for lunch. Barb had the sausages ready and her great jelly slice for us all to enjoy. Thanks Ray and Barb for the hospitality and another informative Tinker Day.

LB.



CLUB MERCHANDISE

Show You Belong

The WDHVC has items on display in the cabinet at the rear of the Clubrooms for members to purchase.

Those wishing to proudly show their membership of our club can select items including:

Coffee Mugs	\$15
Lapel Badges	\$10
Metal Car Badges	\$25
Black Geelong Plates	\$33

If you are interested please contact David Mitchell (Ph 0409 099 716) or Rod Roach (Ph 0438 783 902).

Committee Report - meeting held 16th August 2016

- Mike Hanneysee has suggested a midweek run for older cars that doesn't interfere with Tinker Days.
- Libby is helping Laurie with General Meeting Minutes until a replacement for Raelene is found.
- President reported the 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee has been formed and will meet in the next month.
- President reported a 22 seat bus has been booked to go to Bendigo Swap.
- The marks that still remain in the carpet after being cleaned are of concern and Mike Hanneysee is to arrange to get a second carpet cleaner to look at it.
- Librarian has ask for two more shelves in the library.
- Fred suggested one of the display cabinets in the meeting room required work so it was decided to do this work at the same time.
- Question was asked if the defibrillator was still being taken on runs.

Cheryl Elliot

The views/comments expressed in the publication of this newsletter are those of the individual contributor and are not necessarily endorsed by the current Committee of the Club. Whilst every care is taken to determine the safety of any technical information provided and the accuracy of the information supplied for inclusion in this newsletter, it is printed in good faith and neither the Committee nor the Club accept any responsibility for any loss or injury incurred by any application of such information.



Long Distance Rally

- *the first obstacle*

You may have noticed that we have had a bit of rain, off and on during September!

A number of club cars took off on the long distance rally non-the-less. Initial reports are that all was going well.

A full report and photos will be included in the November *Backfire*, however I couldn't resist including the first photo that Libby Booley sent back from the trip.

Things could only improve from this beginning (and apparently they did). - Ed

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Sunday 9th October
(weather permitting.)

A fun day of driving!

Test your skills!

Blind fold driving. Barrel racing.

Cars supplied.

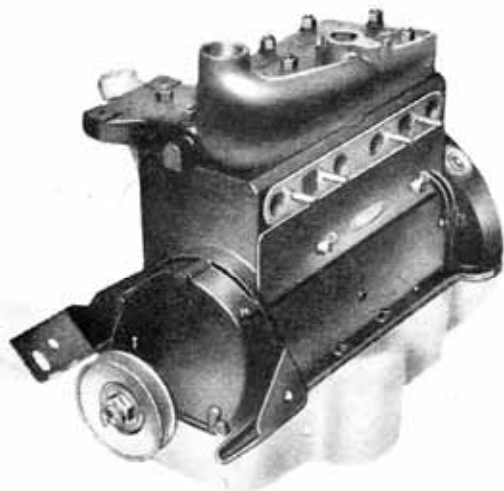
BBQ & meat provided.

Bring everything else.

Leaving the Clubrooms at 10am



GOOD NEWS for MORRIS 8 OWNERS



Did you know that you can now obtain a precision rebuilt exchange engine unit for your car at an advantageous price, with two years' guarantee, carriage paid in U.K. and credit facilities are available if required? It is well worth sending to-day for our post free illustrated booklet and brochures, giving full details of this service.

MASCOT ENGINEERING COMPANY

1, KINGS AVENUE, GREENFORD, MIDDLESEX

Telephone : WAXlow 2819

Quotes About Cars

When I was a small boy, I used to play with toy cars and dream about the day I could own a real one.

Many people still play with their cars today. They are in their 20s, 40s, maybe even 70s, but they still behave like little children when it comes to purchasing an automobile.

There is a simple law at work in the universe: if it has a motor, it's going down in value."

Celso Cukierkorn

(Except if it's a well-chosen and cared for classic, in which case it can actually appreciate in value. - Ed)

I am a Seenager

(Senior Teenager)

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 70 years later. I do not have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I do not have a curfew.

The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant: they aren't scared of anything - they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne.

Life is good! Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this if you are a seenager.

Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brain. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full, so too do humans take longer to access information when their brains are full. Researchers say this slowing down process is not the same as cognitive decline. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more.

Also older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came in for. It is not a memory problem; it's nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

So there!

Looking for "Man Caves"

Dallas Jones is looking for some interesting workshops, so he can tee up a "workshop tour" as a club activity later in the year.

Call Dallas on 5266 1319 if your "man cave" might be available for inclusion.

Mars Bar Competition

The October competition



I have run out of photos of members for now, so I thought you might like to guess the name, number of cylinders, and the year this small car was made.

Your efforts will see several Mars Bars dispensed for correct answers.

It was reported to be able to do a top speed of 60 kilometres per hour.

That may or may not have been timed on a very steep ski slope.

More photos needed

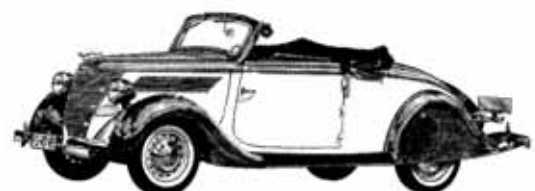
Please sneak in your photo submissions to:

Ray van Galen

Ph 52789 368,

or

email rbvangalen@gmail.com



The World's Worst Cars?

This month *Backfire* continues the series, taken from the book *The World's Worst Cars*. Please don't take offence if your car features in this segment in the coming months - 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

BADLY BUILT CARS

FORD ZEPHYR: MK4 (1966–72)

Specifications.

Top speed: 166KM/H (103MPH)
0-96KM/H (0-60MP/H) 13.4SECS
Engine Type: V6
Displacement: 2,495 CC (151CI)
Weight: 1,310KG (2,912lb)
Mileage: 13.4L/100KM (21MPG)



Sixteen years after the first Zephyr arrived, the final incarnation of Ford's executive salon came on the scene. In four generations, it had grown considerably.

The Zephyr had always echoed the styling of American models, starting off as a rounded, shapely replica of a 1950s sedan, and culminating in this: a gargantuan, incongruous slab of faux-Detroit iron.

Critics quickly jumped on the Zephyr's awkward stubby-tailed, long nosed styling, likening its front end to the landing deck of an aircraft carrier.

Its metal was typical of the 1960s and that meant it had rust traps in abundance. The Zephyr may have been comfortable, and in its upmarket Executive form it was really quite a plush car, but it was built to a price – and it showed.

If you want a car that frightens old ladies and makes small children cry when it drives past, try and track down one of the super rare Coleman Milne Zephyr Executives, which were stretched by two feet, had total of six doors and what appeared to be a gunsight on the end of the bonnet.

It was, in all honesty, a car favoured by funeral directors and local dignitaries.

There were acres of space inside the Zephyr MK 4, but low-spec models were not at all luxurious. You'd expect a car this big to have plenty of room for passengers, but the middle section was actually fairly small. Legroom in the back was cramped, forcing Ford to build a stretched 'Executive' model for chauffeur use.

Quite why the trunk was so stubby, nobody knows – it certainly didn't do the styling any favours. It was so cramped inside that Ford had to move the spare wheel under the bonnet, where there was plenty of unused space.

Nobody could pretend that the Zephyr MK 4 was a pretty car. Its lines were out of proportion, and the fact that the long nose was unnecessary, given that it housed a compact V6 engine, made it even more bizarre.

The MK4 Zephyr was never going to hurtle round racetracks, but buyers were stalled by its reluctance to go around any corners at all. The steering was utterly lifeless, while the skinny tyres had their work cut out trying to convince the huge mass to change direction.

Many of the Zephyr MK 4s met a premature end on banger-racing circuits, where the enormous engine bay made them stand up especially well to full-contact motorsport.

WDHVC MEMBER PROFILE



Name?

Ken

Where were you born?

Geelong

Family?

Wife Linda

Number of years in the WDHVC?

18 years

Other interests?

Geelong Car Museum, Love cars, and travel.

What was your first vehicle?

1963 XL Falcon Ute

What vehicle would you love to own?

New Rolls Royce Convertible

What vehicles do you have now?

Numerous but mainly Fords

Profession?

Farmer

Skills?

Handyman

What bugs you the most?

Young people's impatience especially on the road

What makes you happy?

Seeing other people happy, Good farming seasons and seeing people treated fairly.

SALES, WANTED & CLUES

For Sale

Roma pop top caravan 16 ft. 4 berth, new split system a/c. New carpet, new upholstery, 2 new mattresses, 2 way fridge, 18 inch flat screen TV, DVD. Full heavy duty annexe, reg.

Contact Hank 0407 507 002.

9/16

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 (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 (Ph 5253 1755)



The October cover

- little cars

This month, instead of the usual car badges, I am indulging my interest in small, unusual vehicles by featuring a few on the cover.

For the curious, they are (left to right; top to bottom):

1958 Maico 500, 1935 Datsun Roadster, 1958 Burgfalke FB250.

1958 Zuendapp Janus, 1950s Morris Minor convertible, 1948 Mochet Type K.

1947 Julien MM5, 1956 Heinkel Kabine 153.

1959 Frisky Family Three, 1949 Fiat Topolino, 1933 Standard Superior.

1953 Manocar Prototype, 1947 ALCA Volpe.

1959 Oppermann Unicar, 1955 Nami Belka, 1966 Peel Trident.

- Ed



If undelivered return to:
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BACKFIRE

October 2016



Wolseley 6/80

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 September Lunch Run to Drysdale Hotel	26	27	28	29	30	1 OCTOBER
2	3	4 General Meeting 7.30pm 1 WEEK EARLY THIS MONTH	5 Dine Out 6pm-6.30pm Great Western Hotel.	6	7	8
9 President's Day 10am Clubrooms	10	11	12	13	14	15
G E E L O N G S H O W						
16	17	18 Committee Meeting 7.30pm	19	20 Tinker Day 11am Drysdale Railway Station	21 Costa Aged Care, Lara. Nov <i>Backfire</i> Deadline	22
S H O W						
23 Back to Steiglitz	24	25 Tech/Craft night 7.30pm	26	27	28	29
W A R R A G U L R A L L Y						
30	31	1 NOVEMBER	2	3	4	5
W A R R A G U L R A L L Y						