

# SPIT AND POLISH

Journal of the Veteran Car Club of  
Australia (NSW) Inc.

November 2023



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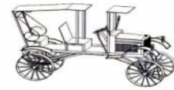
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**ON THE COVER:**  
Malcolm Garthon's 1909 S.C.A.T at the  
Sydney Tramway Museum



# Club Information

## Club Management and Contact Details

### OFFICE BEARERS

<b>President</b>	Phil O'Loan	0439 223 031	president@vccansw.org
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	David McCredie	David Norton	
	Louise Yeomans		
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	John Brumby	0414 844 254	
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# Minutes

Minutes of Monthly Club Meeting held on 26 October 2023. Conducted at the hall and by Zoom.

## ATTENDANCE

Committee: 8            Members: 19            Member's family: 2  
Total at hall (19) and total on zoom (8): 27

## MEETING OPENED AT 8:07PM

**APOLOGIES:** Andrea Holden, Phil O'Loan, Lynette Martin, Sue Martin, Richard Yeomans, David Norton

## PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS

The vice-president, Graeme Newman, welcomed members to the meeting. He sadly reported that two former members had died.

Vale Ron Selig was a member for over 60 years. He joined in 1968. Ron owned 1914 Studebaker which he spent time restoring but never finished it, an Austin 7 Chummy he did restore and an original HQ Holden. The other former member who died was Eric Lang who was an editor of Spit and Polish and assisted with events. He joined the club in about 1965 and owned a 1914 T Ford called the Woody owned now by Richard Day. Eric contributed a lot of work for the Rolls Royce Club.

Norm Mitchell remembered Ron Selig as a helpful, all-round good man. He was a foundation member of the Vintage Sports Car Club.

## MINUTES PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes arising from the minutes: Nil

Proposer: Graham Weekes    Seconder: Robert Fordham

## INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

Royal Automobile Club of Australia- invitation to President's Dinner 24 November \$85 a head

TAVCCA notes from AGM 2023 Griffith

Gunnedah Shire Council sponsorship for maps valued at \$300

Resignation of Warren Wilson

## OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

Request for information on Pre 05 Rally to John Fryirs

Proposer: Les Johnson

Seconded: Ron Cox

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was tabled. Balances are:

Moved: Will Garthon

Seconded: Malcolm Garthon

**MAGAZINE** Nothing to report

## **EVENTS**

### PAST EVENTS

2-8 October: National Rally Griffith

Graeme enjoyed the rally. For the first two days, the weather was very hot followed by a rainy day when only 12 cars ventured to Leeton. There was a longer run on Thursday of about 200km and the next day was a short scenic run around Griffith. Instead of a final dinner there was a lunch. There were some unexpected entries including one from WA who had completed the EOI only. Peter Martin also enjoyed the rally. His mother won the raffle and was pleased even if it was a voucher for tyres! Robert Fordham won the lucky door prize at the rally which was a large oil tray! He broke the front axle on his Model T and last weekend went to a deceased estate sale of Morris and Model T parts. For more details checkout the Model T Ford website.

15 October: Sydney Tramway Museum

Mal Garthon was delighted that 7 veterans attended the day. There were a few incidents but all arrived at Loftus! Six trams were running including two aged over 125 years. He concluded that veteran motoring is a better hobby than old trams as there is a greater choice of routes instead of being confined to tram tracks!

22-28 October: Highwheeler Rally - Gunnedah

There have been reports of an accident. Gavin and Loretta Mutton were involved in a collision on Monday when a car ran into them. Gavin is in Tamworth Hospital. Our best wishes to Gavin and Loretta for a speedy recovery. Of the 22 entrants, only 5 were on the road today! However, it appears that everyone is enjoying the rally.

### COMING EVENTS

27 October - Northern MaSH Coffee Run

28 October - 50th Anniversary of the Model T Ford Club

4 November - Newcastle Branch to visit the Tiger Months at Luskintyre

25 November - Sydney Christmas Party - please let Louise know if you are coming and pay the Treasurer.

10 December - Sydney Rego Day

### **LIBRARY**

At the last meeting the team worked on cataloguing. Graeme installed the new filing cabinet and disposed of the old dating cabinet. Its contents have been sorted and stored appropriately. John Grant and David McCredie continued to enter the information on specific makes of vehicles onto the main list and have started on *Renault*. Karyn and Louise entered the locations of books onto the main list and have completed 5 shelves. David Norton helped with the specific vehicle information. The new 2 drawer filing cabinet houses the printer and will be used to store photographs. Graeme took the old 4 door cabinet with the steel bar away.

**DATING** Nothing to report

### **PERMIT TO MOVE/REGISTRATION**

No new registrations have been received.

Sydney Rego Day on 10 December at Smiley Power from 8 to 12.

**MEMBERSHIP** No applications have been received

### **HALL**

Robert Fordham has received some requests for bookings. One is from Sydney Voice to use the hall this coming Sunday. Another request has come from the Antique and Classic Car Club to hang a plaque next to the President's board. The NRMA board will be moved so this can happen. Robert requested members of other clubs that use the hall's IT to ensure the club logs out after use. He also requested that cars park closer together as four vehicles fit across the western side of the car park rather than 3. Meridian will be asked to repaint the lines in the car park.

**CHMC** Jenny Fawbert will update the club about the AGM to be held this weekend.

**CMC** No report was lodged. Still looking for a delegate.

**WEBSITE** Nothing to report

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Update from the committee:

Currently the committee is working on expectations for those clubs or organisations that wish to

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operate an event underwritten by the club's insurance. There has been a series of these events including the Hupmobile rallies, the Brush rally, the high wheelers Rally and Pre-05 rally. It appears that more events are operating like this. The expectations are being drafted and will be circulated for members' comments.

2. Information packs for 1&2 cylinder National Rally 2024 in Albany are available

3. Reflective number plate toppers

Newcastle Branch are investigating reflective number plate toppers with club stamp. They could cost about \$20. Jenny Fawbert has a contact for flat plates either topper and bottoms, stamped for about \$22. She will give details to Graeme.

4. Lauren's fundraising for the Royal Flying Doctors Service - it is not too late to contribute. See FFAF for the link

5. BMC Roger Allan Foy Memorial Luncheon

Mal Garthon spoke about the function. Allan Foy was involved in the design of the P76. Apart from the display of BMC produced vehicles, Warren Brown will be speaking. Mal needs another 4 participants to have the discounted rate or the cost will be more. Let Mal know if you wish to go.

The Vice President thanked members for attending.

### **MEETING CLOSED AT 8:47pm**

The raffle was drawn. A slideshow from the Tramway Museum and National Rally in Griffith compiled by Graeme was shown.

Graeme Newman  
Vice- President

Louise Yeomans  
Secretary



# President's Report

By Phil O'Loan

Greetings from Italy!

I will catch up with everyone at the November meeting.

Happy motoring,

Phil

# Editor's Report

By Lauren Newman

Thank you to the members who have contributed to the magazine this month. With thanks to Harriette and Catherine we have the start of a well rounded trip on the National Veteran Vehicle Rally, which sounds like it was a great success. Part 2 of Catherine's story will appear in the magazine early next year. Our visit to the Sydney Tramway Museum has also been reported on, and was definitely a worthwhile display that the public seemed to really enjoy - and for us, the tram rides were good fun.

Thank you also to the members who contributed to the Royal Flying Doctors Service fundraiser that I took part in. Thanks to some very generous donations from club members, I was able to raise over \$2000, which is very exciting and far beyond what I hoped to raise.

This is the last magazine for 2023, so I wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year, and look forward to motoring with everyone in 2024.

# 2023 National Veteran Vehicle Tour

Griffith, NSW. 2nd-8th October 2023. By Harriette Martin

## SUNDAY - Blood, frenzy and a bumpy ride...

Our drive down to Griffith was most enjoyable, however Mum was rather horrified at the amount of roadkill on the main highway and it did seem to run red a bit every now and then. Dad ran over a snake on our travels thus adding to the carnage. We went in convoy with Grammy, Poppy and Ruby. We headed to our usual Sutton Forest stop for sustenance and it was a rather windy morning as Mum struggled walking back from Maccas to the car with five orders of breakfast and drinks for everyone.

It was noticeably greener after turning right off main thoroughfare to head inland on the Burley Griffin Highway. We drove through a little town by the name of Binalong and for those that know us well you can imagine we got quite excited.



There was even a Camden St in the town. It was a rough road to Griffith with a few too many potholes to bounce over. Luckily the pool noodles that we put on the mudguards cushioned any potential knocks against the trailer wall.

We stopped to fill up with fuel from a spare fuel container we brought with us, partly because it can be tricky to find a fuel stop once you are off the main highway and because the petrol stop we did find was a little tight to manoeuvre a car and trailer

successfully. As Dad got out of the car he noticed a rabbit in a field very close to where we had parked, who, on seeing Dad, went on a mad frenzied race to get as far away from him as possible. It was hilarious as it ran for dear life and didn't stop until it got to the other side of the paddock. Meanwhile a half dozen or so horses came trotting up to the fence to say hello to Mum and I. They were so friendly and I gave some of them a pat. Later Poppy and Ruby, after parking, walked up to see the horses also. Once our car was filled with fuel we carried on toward Griffith.

With a population of 27000, Griffith has more than 60 nationalities enhancing its cultural diversity. Known as the "food bowl of Australia", Griffith is a primary producer of Citrus, grapes, rice, cotton, also poultry, livestock and aquaculture. What immediately stands out is the canals and irrigation channels, which

you can see as we travelled into Griffith. This has enabled its rich soil to be well watered.

We unloaded the car, still in one piece after its bumpy ride, filled up with petrol and had a look around at Pioneer Museum for Monday's display day just up the hill from our motel. As fellow veteran car rally enthusiasts, you can understand that an early night after a long drive was in order in anticipation of the week ahead.

### **MONDAY - Welcome ice cream on a hot day...**

Unfortunately, Grammy and Poppy did not bring their veteran as they had some business to attend mid-week, so we picked them up from the caravan park where they were staying and headed to display day at Pioneer museum.

The museum gives us an experience of the old Griffith, formerly named Bagtown as it existed in the early 20th century. It was a collection of buildings and all items historical both within buildings and outside.

Early arrival was encouraged to enable car entry into the museum. Any later than 10.00 am and we would be out in the car park.

It was exciting to see so many entrants arrive with so many different and interesting vehicles. The cars were parked all around the museum area so it encouraged you to walk around different areas and catch up with many people whom we haven't seen in a while.

At 10.00am we started lining up for our rally packs including instructions, tickets to lunches and other events for the week. Mum and Grammy lined up and we were pleased to see plenty of goodies including biscuits carefully made and packaged to last by Mrs Betts, chips and lollies (yum!), and bottles of water which were made short work of in the heat of the day.

We spent the day looking at vehicles plus museum exhibits and taking lots of photos. We were very happy to devour an ice cream later that afternoon and it was a welcome to explore the air conditioned comfort of the Italian museum and cultural centre.

At 3.00pm we enjoyed the afternoon tea and welcome by the rally organisers headed by Mr Rob Woolley and a special welcome from Griffith's Mayor Cr Doug Curran.



### **TUESDAY - Mum belongs in a Museum!**

The rally started at Yoogali Club each morning; however, it was a rolling start so we were waved off by the organising committee as we drove to Whitton for morning tea at the local hall. It was a cloudy day as we drove along Irrigation Way and found our vehicle "rhythm", meaning we overtook a few veterans and a few veterans overtook us until we found the right pace that suited us all. Then at some point in the journey you can't see anyone ahead of you or behind you and momentarily you wonder if you are

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heading in the right direction when suddenly there is a T intersection or a morning tea stop and you are quietly relieved that you haven't gone off course. Our morning tea stop in Whitton was hosted by Whitton Public School P&C. The scones were delish' along with other cakes and goodies. Well, scones are not my thing but Mum and Grammy loved them.

After morning tea, we headed to the local Courthouse Historical Museum at which point we were greeted with light showers as we looked around. There was a large dredging crane from 1927 located there. Little did we know that we would see photos of it being used in Leeton to build the first irrigation canals.



Mum was excited to find a typewriter similar to one that she used in secondary school in typing class. Now I know that Mum belongs in a museum!

After the Museum we drove to the lunch stop at Whitton Malthouse where we received a warm welcome and enjoyed a pie and chips for lunch.

Once lunch was finished the group split to look at the Malthouse or take the Cotton Gin tour. We chose the Cotton Gin tour and drove to the factory further down the road. We were shown a video of the Ginning process and listened to the history of how a few farmers got together to build this manufacturing business. Unfortunately, the ginning process was in its non-operational season, but we got to see the machines up close on the factory floor.

On the way back to our motel, we stopped to pick up cotton from the side of the road.

### **WEDNESDAY - Stay in bed Crossley...**

After a night of rain and seeing by morning that it was set in for the day, we decided to drive our modern car, the safer option and as a result the Crossley was "tucked up in bed" all day. We took the scenic tour to Leeton. On arriving, we were not sure what to do next as it was raining hard and our tour of the town was a little later in the afternoon. So we decided to go to the information centre to get our bearings. The staff at the information centre made a big fuss and welcomed a few of the entrants including Mr and Mrs Woolley to a cuppa and biscuits and we listened to John Collins, a local, talk about the history and establishment of Leeton.

Leeton was designed by Walter Burley Griffin who also designed the layout of Canberra. In 1915 William Holman the NSW Premier assigned Henry Lawson the position of Publicist to promote Leeton as the new and exciting farming area in NSW and possibly move Lawson away from the temptation of alcohol as Leeton, like many country towns, had prohibition laws within its territory. From January 1916

through to September 1917 Lawson wrote poems, letters and prose sketch's, some of which found their way to the Australian soldiers of WW1. This was of great value to the government when these soldiers were repatriated to Leeton after the war. Naturally Lawson took regular visits to Whitton and Narrandera to escape the prohibition. It was also said that Lawson organised liquor to "float" down the irrigation canal near where he lived. Well that was the rumour anyway...



After lunch we headed for a walking tour of Leeton by a fellow by the name of Tony, a local who is very passionate about his town of Leeton. As he spoke enthusiastically of his town and as we walked up and down the street, he seemed to know all the locals. He told us of the reconstruction of the Roxy theatre and showed us many Art deco designs on the buildings in the main street. Apparently they have an Art Deco festival held every year in July and the intention is to be the Art deco centre of Australia.

Later during the tour, we visited the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission building which has become a local museum and art gallery. The museum takes you through the development of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) starting in 1900 and the construction of the Burrinjuck Dam, Berembed Weir and 139 Km of Canals. This is where we found a photo of the dredge that we visited on Tuesday.

The weather cleared later and the wind blew the clouds away. Wake up Crossley, time to get out of bed...

**THURSDAY - Take your pick and get out the matches...**

Thursday presented itself with a variety of options to choose from depending on what we opted for in our rally entry. We picked the Edwardian morning tea at Rosewood Park just outside of Griffith. There were other choices including Calabria Family Wines, Altina Wildlife Park and Catania Fruit Salad Farm or go for a 180 Km drive to Carrathool returning through Darlington Point.



*Continues on page 14....*

# Events Calendar

## Club Events

### NOVEMBER

- Tuesday 21st **Newcastle Branch Meeting** - 78 Main Road, Boolaroo. 7:30pm  
Thursday 23rd **Monthly Club Meeting** - 134 Queens Road, Canada Bay. 8:00pm  
Friday 24th **Northern MASH Coffee Run** - Meet at 10:30am at Curry Reserve Elderslie.  
*Contact Bill or Robyn Betts for details.*  
Saturday 25th **Christmas Party** - see details below

### DECEMBER

- Sunday 3rd **Newcastle Branch Christmas Party** - Club Catalina RMBC, Rathmines.  
*Contact: John Burke*  
Friday 8th **Southern MaSH Coffee Run** - Meet at 10:30am at Winifred West Park.  
*Contact Bill or Robyn Betts for details.*

### JANUARY

- Tuesday 16th **Newcastle Branch Meeting** - 78 Main Road, Boolaroo. 7:30pm  
Thursday 25th **Monthly Club Meeting** - 134 Queens Road, Canada Bay. 8:00pm



## Major Events

### **APRIL 2024**

Wednesday 10-14th **Premier Event** - Inverell, NSW

### **MAY 2024**

Thursday 2-5th **Pre 1931 Autumn Tour** - Orange, NSW. Entry form on page 19.  
See details below:



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Unfortunately I cannot speak to those outings but I'm sure they were interesting. On this cool day we enjoyed a cuppa and cake and a look around at the lovely garden. This was a labour of love by the owners and it certainly looked like they had spent many an hour perfecting their garden. We then made our way back to the motel to polish the radiator, amongst other things, making the Crossley spick and span for the evenings Gas light parade.

We arrived at the information centre car park at 5.30pm. Everyone drove in and parked and had another opportunity to inspect everyone's vehicles along with the general public who were very excited to see the parade. Coffee and ice cream were available to enjoy. Although the parade was supposed to start at 7.30pm I think it was brought forward as we all started to leave for a drive up and down the main street around 7pm. All six of us were in the car and Ruby waved her paw at the excited crowd. There were plenty of owners who waved their dogs' paws back too. One loop around the CBD and then back to the motel.

### FRIDAY - Uh-oh...

Friday was a long day, 197 Km long. With a chilly wind we left Griffith and headed to Barellan. Again we found ourselves and others juggling for position as we found our driving "rhythm". The local CWA put on a fabulous morning tea of scones with jam and cream. The scones, just out of the oven, were even more delicious on such a cool day.

The local Barellan second hand shop did some good business that day and there was plenty to look at both in the shop and outside with a large Tennis racquet and ball in homage to Barellan born Evonne Goolagong-Cawley. After morning tea we drove on to Weethalle, stopping to take some pictures of the first silo Art in NSW. It was very impressive. We stopped at Weethalle showground for lunch. I got the

drone out and took some video with it flying over the cars.



After lunch we headed back to Griffith on a road that was straight with a head wind. It was nice to stop for an ice cream as by now the weather had warmed up and we needed to stretch our legs. However, the long day took its toll on the radiator and 30 Km out from Griffith we were out of water and boiling. After waiting thirty minutes for the radiator to cool and emptying the thermos and remnants of any water in an attempt to fill it we still did not have enough to satisfy the Crossley. Luckily

there was a puddle on the other side of the road that was deep enough to fill one of the water bottles. I think Dad filled it to the brim three times before we were able to restart the car and head back. I can



only say thank goodness it rained on Wednesday or we would be on a trailer instead. As we were waiting for the car to cool, Andrew Winter and Alison King in their 1911 Model 20 Hupmobile with the same problem stopped to cool down nearby, but later found out that they had a leak in the radiator.

### **SATURDAY - last but not least...**

Saturday was the best day weatherwise. On our way out to Yenda we stopped at the Yoogali Club to pick up our morning tea biscuits from Mrs Betts, who had skilfully again, had them vacuum sealed so they would be lovely and fresh. Morning tea was held at Yenda, after a gentle drive zig zagging, with a little imbrication to our destination. I took the opportunity to take some pictures using the Drone, although a bit windy but they came out successfully. Mum and I had an energetic time on the see-saw that not only went up and down but round and round.

We then headed on a short drive to Lake Wyangan for lunch. Lake Wyangan is located just outside of Griffith and used to be a former Gypsum mine and natural swamp. It now has many sheltered picnic areas plus barbecue facilities and play areas. We also noticed some of the locals were fishing in the area. We were treated to some delicious wraps and slices which we all enjoyed. Later Mum and I went for a walk around the park. There was an enclosure with Emus, chooks and peacocks and later as we left we spotted a deer enclosure. As this was our last day, we made it last as long as possible before heading back to the motel to load the car back on the trailer. But before we left Dad and Poppy assisted Mr Fordham with Model T electrical wiring that had burnt out.

### **SUNDAY - Home time**

We unfortunately missed Sunday Lunch as I had school on Monday. But before we left we took a picture of one of the Citrus sculptures in the main street to celebrate Griffith's Spring Fest. Hope everyone enjoyed their lunch and apparently Grammy won the tyres in the raffle!



Mum, Dad and I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Woolley and their wonderful and ever helpful Tour Organising Committee for making a very enjoyable and memorable National Veteran Tour.

# Three weeks in an FN2400

25th Sep-13th Oct. By Catherine Strutt. Part 1

We couldn't have wished for a more perfect day for the start of our three weeks of wandering the western NSW bush, via the National Veteran Vehicle Rally at Griffith, NSW. We would use the first week to pick our way over from Newcastle to Griffith, the middle week driving the rally and the last week to wander home. As always, there is so much to write about when you're daily driving an antique vehicle solo through towns, villages, outback stations and the bush. The people we met, the roads we travelled, the unexpected experiences we enjoyed in just three weeks are so diverse and many that I could publish a thick book. But I will spare you the War & Peace and just hover over a few highlights of our very enjoyable journey.



*First night, Mittagong Caravan Park*

As others are sure to share their own rally reports, I will let them tell you in detail about the rally week while I side step it a little and take you down some dusty gravel roads...

With the FN packed to the gunwales with all that we would need over the next three weeks, tent, extra fuel and spare tyres strapped to the running boards, we left home at 9am and joined the morning



*Gundaroo Camp*

weekday traffic heading south. In this larger model FN we get along comfortably at 60kms per hour so keeping up with traffic is not normally too much of a headache when we need to. We don't choose main roads, freeways or highways. Instead, you'll find us motoring along the back roads and gravel roads. Roads "without paint" as Chris describes them, are our favourite.

A few years ago on another trip in the FN, we stumbled upon the ridiculously gorgeous and beautiful tiny village of Wee Jasper, situated roughly

between Canberra and Gundagai on the trout loaded

Goodradigbee River. The perfectly green and manicured camp ground of Billy Grace Reserve is one of the best camp areas we've ever used and the slow, steep, first gear ascent out of Wee Jasper up the winding, narrow gravel road with spectacular views was jaw dropping and beautiful. It was a "must do again" and so we planned our first week to arrive in Wee Jasper so that we could stay two days, explore

the river and nearby caves and really enjoy the place.

After a not so enjoyable, frenetic drive getting through western Sydney we arrived at Mittagong late to find that everything was booked out due to the school holidays. Defeated, we sat outside a closed caravan park and checked our non-existent options. The FN idled "chucka chucka chucka" and waited for further instructions. To our relief, the van park caretaker heard the strange agricultural sound, peered out the door and came out, face lit, she was delighted to see us.



*Arriving at Wee Jasper*

"Look at your caaarrrrr!!" she said obviously, "are you travelling around in that?"...we couldn't see another option around, "Yeah, but we're a bit bugged because we're out of daylight and everywhere's booked out" we said, feeling slightly over the day of

traffic.

After a walk around the fully chocked caravan park, miraculously the lovely lady fitted us right on in, even with our own picnic table and green grass, and once again, as has happened countless times before when travelling solo in the FN, doors opened, problems were solved and more experiences were had.

We got going early the next day. It was my birthday and spending it travelling in the FN was a perfect way to celebrate. We motored on to the little village of Gundaroo where we helped ourselves to the local showground's cool green grass, amenities and outdoor power point for the night and stopped at the old pub for a birthday snitty and beer. We enjoyed a peaceful night before packing up and moving on out into the sunny countryside the next day.

We found Yass River Rd and followed it over the bare rolling green hills as the bitumen ended and the gravel began. It was a very enjoyable drive through kilometres of white gum bush and rocky limestone hills punctured with numerous large holes of wombat residencies. The views were impressive as the narrow road wound itself like a necklace



*Camp at Wee Jasper*

through the landscape. Fueling up at Yass we then carried on down into Wee Jasper where as we were rolling slowly down the hill lining up to cross the old white timber bridge into the small village, a couple standing by the bridge waved at us enthusiastically, faces beaming. We were surprised to discover that

they were the same couple who we had met at Yass when they were fascinated by the old car on the street. They were also headed to Wee Jasper for the night.

"Get on!" we yelled as we pulled up beside them, "we'll take you for a drive across the bridge!"

They were ecstatic and eagerly jumped onto the running boards. "I won't go fast" Chris reassured them, "but you DO have to hang on". And off we chugged across the bridge.

We had a brilliant couple of relaxing days' stay at Wee Jasper. It was just as enjoyable as our first visit a couple of years back. We were fortunate to have perfect sunny, clear days and once again the FN secured us access into total stranger's unique and interesting lives. We met a local trout fisher who has a tin shack on the river, used as a weekender. His little corrugated iron haven with a distinct fish theme inside smelled of smoked trout and consisted of a tiny single room with a sink, open fireplace and other little luxuries. Photos of triumphant catches, fish ornaments, and novelty plaster trouts that flapped and sang popular old songs at the push of a button lined the timber walls. "Fish Fear Me, Women Love Me" the cheap rusty sign riveted to the outside wall announced. As he led us into his hideaway, the fisherman tapped the sign and grinned at Chris, as if sharing an old joke, wink wink. It felt like this elderly man with his cultured dialect from an affluent suburb of Sydney was escaping his fast paced city life to retreat into his own boys' own adventure on weekends, to be a bit of a rough bushie, something he was denied in his fancy



home back in the city with his wife. But his fishy paradise existed very precariously as he, along with seven other shack owners, are being threatened with eviction from the local council. We wished him luck and drove on to explore further up the river.



*Leaving Wee Jasper*

A perfect veteran motoring day greeted us the next day and once again, we climbed up and out of Wee Jasper on the spectacular gravel Wee Jasper Road to Tumut. A distance of some 68kms. This was the part of the trip we had been looking forward to and it was just as awesome as the first time we drove it,

albeit a lot rougher, as the road had deteriorated considerably.

As we neared the top of the mountain range, we entered into a thick, dark pine plantation with large patches of eucalypt forest overrun with blackberry bush. We could see the bright green thorny weed all the way up the sides of hills in the distance. As we climbed further we passed over the Great Dividing Range and the forest and bush disappeared behind us. The land opened out into the flat, barren plains of the snow fields of Kosciusko National Park and we spotted herds of brumbies on either side of the road, some lying as roadkill on the side of the road.

The FN was motoring along effortlessly and we passed through the sparse gold mining area of Kiandra and on to beautiful Providence Portal where we camped for the night overlooking the Eucumbene River..hugely popular with fishers, boaters, drinkers and creatures in tents who snore and inconsiderately erect campsites late into the night.

Leaving Providence Portal, which was a side trip due to a spare day of time, we retraced our trip from the previous day back to Tumut. It was a very hot, clear day and snakes were about warming their writhing bodies on the hot bitumen. We narrowly missed a black snake as Chris pulled the FN sharply



around it and we remembered with humour the story a certain late Mr Peter Adams used to recall when he accidentally ran over a sun bathing snake one time in his veteran only to have it collected in the wheel spokes and flung up into the car. Probably only part of the story was true but why let truth get in the way of a good yarn!

After refuelling at Tumut and collecting food and water supplies, we motored on to Gundagai and then skipped west to Junee where we stopped for the night in the caravan park.

The next morning we were on the road as early as we could. It was going to be a hot and windy day and already the gusty wind was picking up. With an obligatory stop at the Junee Licorice and Chocolate Factory, of which there is only a small amount of said goods and a hell of a lot of café, bar, gift shop, tourists and museum, we joined the Canola Way and travelled through a largely rural landscape of crops, farms and rolling hills. We passed through Coolamon, Ganmain, Matong, Grong Grong to Nerrandera where we pulled up in the shade beside the town park, flicked off the engine and had some lunch. Moving on, we motored along the frantic Irrigation Way where we were bullied by semi trailers, huge utes towing huge caravans and the strong westerly wind and heat. When the wind got too much, we pulled over and packed up the hood, fearing it was going to rip up at any moment. It made for a very uncomfortable, tiring and baking hot drive into Griffith where after picking up more supplies, we motored around the town and found our caravan park. We had been on the road from 9am to 4pm for seven days already and it was nice to finally stop in one spot for a while and relax.



Rolling into the van park, we spotted a number of other veterans and rally entrants already in camp including our good friends, Stan and Maggie Bone with their apple green FN1560. It was great to see them again and we were all

looking forward to the events of the rally over the week. We setup our tent and sat in the cool of the shade having a drink and catching up with the Bones and other friends who had joined us to chat away the afternoon.

The National rally this time was a little different to other National rallies. There was a lot less driving and a bit more free time which meant that we could catch up with interstate friends without the feeling of needing to rush. Chris and I would've enjoyed more challenging routes with days of longer drives but we had the opportunity to do this either side of the rally so overall we enjoyed the different, more casual and social pace of the rally.



Monday, the first day of the rally, we gathered at the Griffith Pioneer Museum for the display day and rally registration. The generous rally bags were full of edible and non edible surprises and info on the surrounding district to help us all enjoy the week. The impressive open air museum amongst the dry scrub housed a large collection of original historic buildings from around the area including early churches, baker, blacksmith and hospital and the huge gathering of veteran vehicles of all colours, shapes and sizes parked around the buildings made the place look like we were on a movie set. It was a great visual setting for the start of the rally.



One of the highlights of the week for us was the gas light parade along the main street of Griffith. What a wonderful and enthusiastic turnout of locals all lining the streets and waving, some even hitching rides! Another very memorable highlight was our visit to the Catania Fruit Salad Farm. This was a thoroughly enjoyable, if not a little eccentric, experience that Chris, myself, Stan and Maggie and a bunch of fellow rally folks had at this family run farm on the outskirts of Griffith.

We went there with our taste buds ready to slurp up some cold refreshing fruit salad but instead we were given prunes! We were shown an extremely informative and interesting video explaining the irrigation and farming of the expanse of orange orchards surrounding the town and then enjoyed a welcome cuppa with handmade bikkies and cake. Our hosts, Sharon and Joe, were a husband and wife team. Sharon, an expert talker, was the boss in charge of the whole operation and for thirty years they have been giving tours at their family farm. She hosted the video, narrated the video, made all of the cakes

and bikkies and ran the show. But the best was still to come when later we were treated to a cramped ride in a beat up iron clad diesel minivan for a tour around the farm buildings. As we squashed in and sat on the small seats with our knees bent up due to the small leg space, Joe pushed the button and on came Sharon through the speaker system narrating a recorded commentary of the things we were seeing out the windows. Unfortunately some of the farm was closed off due to some flooding and so we sat in the bus listening to the recording, imagining what was being described outside when in reality we were stationary, having only travelled a few dozen metres. It was such a different experience that we all loved it, and agreed that we would even go back and do it again!

On other days we motored out to Whitton where we had a short tour of a cotton gin, Leeton, Weethalle and Yenda. On the final day before the final lunch, the town was busy preparing for its Orange Festival and many clever sculptures made with thousands of oranges and sponsored by the local businesses

around the town had been created overnight with some still getting their final touches. It was a brilliant sight!



The time arrived when we had to once again pack the FN to the gunwales and say goodbye to good friends. As Maggie and Stan and the FN1560 went south, we went north, back on the road again and on a mission: to find the original station homestead of our smaller FN car, the FN1600, somewhere in central west NSW.

*To be continued..*

NSW Entrants (as listed in the rally booklet)

- Col & Jeanette Harmer - 1916 Model T Ford
- John Brumby - 1917 Maxwell
- John, Kelly, Max & Joan Burke - 1916 Hupmobile
- Laurie & Marcia McGrath - 1914 Model T Ford
- Graham Weekes - 1912 Buick
- Chris Duncan & Catherine Strutt - 1911 FN
- Andrew Winter & Alison King - 1911 Hupmobile
- Ian & Karen Brenner - 1916 Cadillac
- Derek Page - 1916 Chevrolet
- Peter, Sue, Harriette, Neil & Lyn Martin - 1913 Crossley

- David & Betty Cherry - 1916 Chevrolet
- Graeme & Karyn Newman - 1914 Talbot
- Graham & Kerry Sawyer - 1916 Overland
- Alan Miller - 1914 Oakland
- Robert Fordham - 1915 Model T Ford
- Greg & Gillian Roberts - 1913 Model T Ford
- Ian Bourke - 1915 Monroe
- Phil & Terri O'Loan - 1910 Talbot
- John Wards - 1916 Benz
- Rod & Ruth Holmes - Modern

# Sydney Tramway Museum Display

Sunday 15th October. By Graeme Newman

Earlier in the year our club was invited to take part in the Tramway Museum's 'Turn Back Time - Trams at the turn of the 20th Century' event which was celebrating the 125th Anniversary of their C Class tram C29. Along with street performers and museum volunteers in period costume our cars helped to create an Edwardian atmosphere reminiscent of when C29 was in service.

It was a great day for it, and large numbers of visitors took the opportunity to ride the trams which operated throughout the day. Three trams, including C29 ran in convoy into the Royal National Park, whilst two others took passengers to the substation at Sutherland where various displays were available for viewing.



*C29 in the Royal National Park*

*Photo by Michael Hatton of the Tramway Museum*

The local scout group did a roaring trade selling bacon & egg rolls, sausage sandwiches and assortment of cakes and cool drinks.



Wollongong for the day.

From speaking to our members on the day, everyone seemed to enjoy the outing and several commented on the number of volunteers at the museum including a good deal who were either teenagers or young adults.

Being located beside the railway line, visitors who were in the right place at the right time were also treated to the sight of three Heritage Trains passing through, including 3801 which was headed to



Thanks to our members who attended, it was much appreciated by the Tramway Museum.

Attended by:

Ian Bourke - Monroe

Alan & Denyse Barker & family - Darracq

Barry, Dorothy & Ian Shinfield - Talbot

Ron Cox - Overland

Malcolm Garthon - S.C.A.T

Graeme & Karyn Newman, Dianne Gotley & Brett Corrigan - Talbot

William Garthon, Lauren Newman, Mitchell, Ashleigh & Isla Blizzard - Crossley



# Classifieds

Please note ALL ADS MUST include the price and if you wish ONO. Advertisements will only run for 3 months then will be removed unless requested otherwise. If selling a vehicle or engine, please include all known numbers and details. All states please copy.

FOR SALE: Unrestored 1918 T Ford (see right)  
Unrestored 1918 Australian bodied, T Ford  
tourer. Complete mechanically, engine turns.  
Demountable wheels and rims. Some restoration  
parts included. Call to discuss price.  
Contact: Bob Petersen - 0427 447 015  
janandbobp@gmail.com



FOR SALE: Dreadnaught sidelight (incomplete) \$300 or reasonable offer



Herm Reimann acetylene headlamp and stand \$1200 or reasonable offer



Contact: John Lightfoot (non member) - 0417 650 346. Mona Vale, NSW

FOR SALE: Lucas Lamps



Lucas "King of the Road" kerosene 636 tail-lamp which appears to be complete and in very good condition. Good lenses and burner. Some small dents only. Price \$299

Lucas "King of the Road" LHS kerosene 726 side-lamp which appears to be complete and in very good condition. Nickel plated over brass. Good lens and burner. Some small dents only. Price \$350

Lucas "King of the Road" RHS kerosene 724 side-lamp which appears to be complete and in very good condition. Nickel plated over brass. Good lens and burner. Some small dents only. Price \$350

Please note that the two side-lamps are really a matching pair.

Jeff Palmer (Newcastle NSW)  
0427965934           jasper.1912@bigpond.com



WANTED: 4 used 33x4 well base (not beaded edge) tyres  
Condition not important, needed to move project car around garage.

Contact: Derek Page - 0419 631 574  
djpage@iprimus.com.au



**1918 CADILLAC.** Large 314 cubic inch V8, seven passenger touring car, great body, in need of restoration. #7431 **\$23,000**

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1916 Cadillac Touring - Needs restoration

1912 Cadillac - Mostly restored

**SOLD** 1903 Orient - ~~Restored~~

1905 Cadillac - Restoration project

### COMING SOON

1908 Cadillac - Restoration project

1913 Oakland - 40hp original unrestored

**SOLD** 1901 Crestmobile - ~~Restored~~

1903 Stanley - Restored

1913 Crane Simplex - Original unrestored POA

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