

THE VETERAN CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND) INC.

*Club Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC
Governor of Queensland*

VETERAN TORQUE

APRIL 2016

Farewell Dalby



Yamba Next



COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF VCCA(Q) 2015-2016



Club Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC Governor of Queensland

President: Bob Burley

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Vice-President: Glynn Hackshall

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Events Director: Russell Massey (07)3893 3414

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Property Director:

David Hackshall (07) 3805 2041

email david@pbiaustralia.com

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Honorary Life Members

RACQ

Phil Fletcher

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Non-Management Positions:

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Paul Blake (07) 3878 6483

Bob Collett 0411 242 360

Syd Norman 0427 452 261

Member Liaison:

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Librarian:

Wayne Aberdeen (07) 3396 8556

Club Historian:

Denis Martin (07) 3379 2530

Webmaster

Peter Ransom (07) 3359 2671

email piransom@westnet.com.au

Queensland Delegate to National Body:

Bob Burley (07) 3886 0059

Club Delegate to Qld Historic Motoring Council:

Albert Budworth (07) 3361 2424

The Club holds its meetings on the first MONDAY of each month (excluding January).

Meetings are held in the VCCA(Q) Clubrooms at 1376 Old Cleveland Road, CARINDALE.

(Corner of Old Cleveland Road and The Gateway Arterial Road – Refidex Map 182 E5).

Meetings commence at 7.30pm, and Visitors are always welcome.

The telephone number for the Clubrooms is (07) 3843 0010

The Club has a new Website: www.vccaq.com

Membership fees for 2015 (Due July 1) are:

Full Membership (single): \$60; Joint Membership \$65.

Country Membership (single): \$50; Joint Membership: \$55.

Associate Membership \$50

There is an additional joining fee of \$30.

Note: As from 1/7/2015 there is an **ADDITIONAL CHARGE** of \$5 for those members requiring a mailed copy.

Membership fees may be paid by direct credit into the Club's Account:

Bank of Queensland A/C 21577447; BSB 124001

Membership Application Forms are available from the Secretary.

All articles for publication in "Veteran Torque" must be with the Editor by the 20th of each month.

Please send contributions to:

Carolyn Robinson

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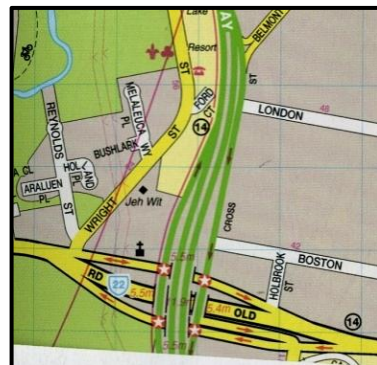
All other correspondence to:

The Secretary, VCCA (Q) Inc.

1376 Old Cleveland Rd

CARINDALE QLD 4152

email secretary.vccaq@gmail.com



"It's not fair – Rhonda's finding Easter Eggs with a GPS!"

President's Report

My apologies and Hazel's for our absence from the last meeting, Glynn presided over the faithful few. Thanks Glynn.

Our 60th Anniversary Rallies have commenced with a very successful rally at Dalby. Reports will turn up in the Veteran Torque magazine.

The number of our members attending Rallies is good and the cars always well presented. This Club is so vibrant with enthusiasm for any excuse to Rally their cars.

We still need someone to fill our Library window with a nice display, no one has come forward thus far..

For anyone who has not been to the clubhouse recently, the new church project next door is at 96% completed. The fit out of the big building is nearly finished, the car park is finished, no more gymkhanas there as its all new bitumen and shiny new painted lines and lights so they can access the new rear street opening. Some of the benefits are the shared gate down by our sheds which gives access if a fire to the rear of the church should happen and access blocked from the front. The benefit is we can access the new huge fire water point if we have to in an emergency. The large containers down at the back will soon be gone and they said they will restore our grounds as necessary. The gardens on the church side when grown will be a nice backdrop for us. The adjoining fence will be repaired as necessary and planting a hedge with the fence inside should look really nice; no need to trim our gum tree so we get a bit more leafy shade behind the BBQ.

Our clubhouse needs the gutters to be replaced - had a quote, decided to do it in house in the cooler months. We have some six I think ex telegraph poles down at the back. Would anyone have a big saw so they could be made into new garden edges?

Bob Burley.

Vale Peter Adams

Peter Adams lost his battle to cancer earlier this month and was laid to rest on Thursday during our Dalby rally. Peter was a long time member of the Veteran Car Club in NSW and was well known to many of our Queensland members. He was a regular attendee at National events and was often seen to venture across the border to attend our rallies. Peter was also a very talented musician and would often find a lonely piano or take out his violin to start a sing along. Many members will remember that wet and miserable lunch stop on the Gympie National when Peter started playing the piano in the corner of the hall. Before long he was joined by 2 or 3 others playing along and everybody joining in the sing song. It brightened up an otherwise soggy day.

In more recent times Peter will be remembered for his rallying of Fifty Bob, his 1914 A Type Vauxhall. This was the car that raced the Melbourne to Sydney train in 1916 and beat it convincingly in a time of 15 hours and 55 minutes. Peter had planned to re-enact that trip this year to mark the centenary but unfortunately was unable to realise that dream. Instead his sons have decided to do the trip in his honour and had planned to do it last weekend. I trust that Peter would have been riding with them in spirit.

Peter will be remembered by many of our members for his bright personality and great humour and I know that had he been able he would have been with us this year to help celebrate our 60th Anniversary. Rest In Peace Peter.

Peter Arnold.

**Minutes of the Six Hundred and Twenty Fifth Meeting of the Veteran Car Club of
Australia Qld. Inc.,**

held in the Clubrooms at 1376 Old Cleveland Rd. Carindale, Monday 7th March, 2016.

Opened by: Vice-President Glynn Hackshall commenced the meeting at 7.35pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Attendance: As per attendance book

Apologies: As per attendance book, plus Syd Norman, Michael Hackshall.

Minutes: The minutes from the previous February meeting were taken as published in Veteran Torque Magazine. Moved: Wayne Aberdeen, Seconded; Hugh Kimlin, carried.

Business arising from Minutes: February General Meeting was the 624th General Meeting of the Club, and there was a Visitor from England, Mr. Ian Parsons. Attendance of members not listed.

Correspondence

Inward:

1. Invite from Bill Ives to attend The Old Petrie Town Steam Fair at the Old Petrie Town Historic Village on Dayboro Rd., Petrie. Weekend of the 4th & 5th June 2016. (VCCA Q asked to advise number of members attending.) Enquiries: livesteam001@yahoo.com.au
2. Invite from Lucas Kummerow (the Toowoomba and District Old Machinery Society Inc.) to attend the Queensland Heritage Rally 2016, at the Oakey Showgrounds weekend of 28th, 29th, 30th October 2016. Camping facilities available, motels are closely located as well. VCCA Q members are invited to be part of this Rally, by displaying our cars either for one day or all three days. Registration forms available from VCCA Q Secretary.
3. Invite from Greg Stevens of the A.H.M.F. to attend the National Motoring Day 'Picnic in the Park', to be held once again in Queens Park Ipswich, on Sunday 1st May, 2016. There is no charge for this event, and free entry to the public. Period costume requested, accompanied by picnic sets etc. if possible.

(N.B. All invites above are sanctioned VCCA Q Inc. as Club Events.)

Outwards: Nil.

Moved: Albert Budworth, Seconded: Diane Hackshall, that the inwards and outwards Correspondence be accepted. Carried.

Business arising from Correspondence:

- Albert Budworth advised the meeting that the Old Petrie Town Steam Fair is on the same weekend as the annual Q.H.M.C Rally, this year in Toowoomba.
- Geoff Clegg reminded members that the Old Petrie Town Village has (amongst other interests), an excellent market, blacksmith, and foundry. Members of the Village are prepared to do work for visitors within these trades at a reasonable cost. See any of their members for advice most Sunday mornings.

Treasurer's Report : The Chairman read an email (from the Club Treasurer), giving the financial position of the Club's finances, and requested that the report be accepted as read.

Moved: David Hackshall Seconded: Wayne Aberdeen, Carried.

Business arising-Treasurer's Report; Nil

Events Co-Ordinator: Nil (Russell attending Dalby rally).

Q.H.M.C. Report: Albert advised that the invitations to attend the annual Q.H.M.C. Toowoomba Rally are available.

Webmaster's Report: Absent from meeting.

SAG Report: Nil (Peter Arnold attending Dalby rally)

Dating Officer Report: Nil (Ross Guthrie attending Dalby rally)

Facilities Report: David Hackshall advised that he and his father Glynn sealed the club rooms western roof sheeting, during the previous weekend, cleaned out the roof gutters, mowed, trimmed concrete edges, as well as a general tidy up of the club grounds. Tenant is keeping the Rental house and yard area in a good condition. Thanks to Wayne Aberdeen, John Que and Ross Guthrie for mowing during the previous month. Members will be asked to attend a working bee (on a date to be advised at next month's General Meeting) to help conduct some extra work around the club grounds.

Library Report: Librarian advised library open.

Historian's Report: Denis Martin had an interesting article to read, but decided to give to the Editor for inclusion in next month's Veteran Torque Magazine.

Newsletter Report: Nil (Editor Carolyn Robinson absent).

General Business:

- (A) An email from John Burke (VCCA NSW Newcastle member) advising that Peter Adams (Betco Tyres fame) passed away early on Friday morning 5/3/16, as a result of brain cancer. (Condolences to Peter's family and friends from VCCA Q members. Peter was widely known by VCCA members throughout Australia, and his attendance will certainly be missed here in Queensland, on our rallies Acting Secretary).
- (B) Email from VCCA (W.A.) courtesy of John Wood advising that seat belts have to be now fitted to Veteran Cars in Western Australia, if carrying children under the age of seven years. The assembly of these seat belts must be fixed to an appropriate anchorage point; the whole assembly has to be certified by a qualified Engineer. The only exemption to carry children under the age of seven, is when a vehicle is participating in a parade, where the vehicle does not exceed 10kph. Furthermore, children must be conveyed to and from the event in a vehicle equipped with seat belts.
- (C) An invitation from the Model A and Model T Ford Clubs has been received inviting members that have a Model A or Model T vehicle, to attend a rally commemorating Henry Ford's 153rd birthday, on a days' run to Fort Lytton. Enquiries should be directed to Ron Johnman on 0419 932136.
- (D) Bayside swap meet is on again at Ormiston State School on Sunday 20/3/16.
- (E) An invitation from Bill Martin to visit the Penrite Oil factory located at Marsden Industrial area has been extended to members, on the 10/4/16 (limit of 100 persons) . Enquiries should be directed to John Que.
- (F) Also, it is advised that 2016 Mac's Bridge Sports & Classic Car Festival is being held on Sunday 22/5/16, at the Qld Rifle Assoc. Belmont Range, 1485 Old Cleveland Rd, Belmont. Used to be on Mothers' Day at MacLeans Bridge, then at Lakeside motor circuit. Further enquiries to Mike Taylor 0417 193611.
- (G) Chairman advised that there were 25 veteran vehicles attending today's run in Dalby, according to Peter Arnold. Fine and cloudy with some light rain in the afternoon. But a great day's rallying.
Peter and Lyn enjoyed watching all 25 cars participate, noting each car's performance and capabilities, as they were the first to leave and all 24 cars passed them during the day's run to Nev Morris's place and Bell for Lunch.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Acting Secretary: Glynn Hackshall.

Webmaster's Report

Hopefully few of us will be facing a Driver's Licence test anytime soon, but perhaps your grandchildren will. On our LINKS page you can now access a very comprehensive site designed specifically for anyone going for their Queensland car licence. This is a private site with no government or commercial connections. The guy who put it together just felt it was something needed by young drivers-to-be.

Photos of the very successful Dalby rally have started to trickle in and will be up on the GALLERIES page by the time you read this.

I've been helping a bloke in Wangaratta who's building a Sunbeam racer. Even though I was in the IT game for all my working life I still think how lucky we are to have email, digital cameras, scanners and so on. My man in Wang asks for a dimension or an explanation and within a few minutes I can get the information or take hi-definition pictures or do a rough drawing and send it to him. I could upload a video if necessary. We've lived through an era of dramatic change: Used to be that telex was the go, then phones got a bit better with STD and faxes came along, too, but with rotten definition and often limited image life. I have great admiration for the blokes that struggled with originality issues and sourcing of parts in pre-Internet days, relying on snail mail or phone calls outside Australia that were eye-wateringly expensive.

Peter Ransom

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The Ayr/Home Hill Rally - 11-16 July.

The meet and greet will be on Monday evening 11th of July from 3pm for a 6.30 B.B.Q. It will be at Les and Christine Wassmuth's place - 12 Lisa Drive Ayr. BYO drinks and chairs.

We decided to start the rally on Tuesday 12th to give everyone a couple of days break after the Mackay run. We will be leaving each morning from Plantation Creek Park.

We will be sending out a meal form to give us an indication of numbers for our lunch venues, which will be pay as you go, (or of course BYO).

The final dinner will be Saturday night 16th July.

Looking forward to seeing you all in the Burdekin.

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Those members who are going to the Mackay and Ayr/Home Hill Rallies might be interested in going to the Townsville Swap Meet:

Sunday July 17, 6am – 2pm. Townsville Showgrounds, Kings Road entrance
Entry \$10 adults, All proceeds going to charity.
Free onsite camping, some with powered sites.
Displays of vintage, veteran and classic cars, plus stationary engines.

For further information email Frank Cerutti at cerutfa@ozemail.com.au

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A Thank You

From Pam Guthrie to all the Club Members at the recent Dalby Rally who signed a card for her 70th Birthday. It was greatly appreciated.

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Coming Club / Sanctioned Events

[Invitation Events shown in italics]

30 April – 1 May. *Tweed Valley Restorers' Club*. Entries close 24 April. Information Veteran Club website.

1 May *National Motoring Heritage Day*. "Picnic in the Park" to be held in Queen's Park, Ipswich. Period costumes are requested. Free entry for 200 vehicles. Cars must be on display from 9.30am – 2pm.

1 May *David Hack Classic*. At Toowoomba Airport. Display Car entry \$10, public \$15/adult. Classic cars, military vehicles and Warbirds on display.

22-27 May. *Yamba*. 60th Anniversary Rally.

3-5 June *RACQ/QHMC Rally*. Hosted by QVVA, to be held in Toowoomba area. Enquiries/registration of interest secretary@qhmc.org.au or phone Graham 0407 257 440.

4-5 June *Old Petrie Town Steam Fair*. Traction Engines, steamrollers, steam toys, engines, cars tractors, , trucks, buses and more. Fire Brigade Museum, Potters, Blacksmith, Mens' Shed, will all be open. Plus the Markets. Gold Coin donation to Museum. Members are prepared to do work for visitors within their trades at a reasonable cost.

Enquiries: lvestem001@yahoo.com.au

We're considering making this an extended club event, if members would be interested.

3-8 July *Mackay 60th Anniversary Rally* Mackay, immediately followed by:

11-16 July *Ayr/Home Hill*. Further information elsewhere this issue.

10 July *RACQ Motorfest* .Eagle Farm Racecourse, Lancaster Rd, Ascot. Open to public 10am-3pm. The featured marques this year are BMW (100th Anniversary) and Corolla (50th Anniversary). *If you are not going to the Mackay/Ayr Rallies, please support this event.*

24 July *Henry Ford's Birthday Rally*, (he would have been 153 years old). The Model T and Model A Clubs of Queensland invite all T and A owners to join them on a run from our Clubrooms to Fort Lytton on Sunday 24 July 2016. Phone Ron Johnman on 0419 932 136 for details. You will be made most welcome.

6 August *Club Presentation Dinner*

20 August.[Sat.] *Club Swap* [Veteran and Vintage only]. From 8.30am. At the Clubrooms. . Gold Coin Admission. Tea, Coffee and Sausage Sizzle available.

18-23 September. Stanthorpe 60th Anniversary Rally.

1 – 3 October. *Maryborough & Dist. A.C. 7th Custodians' Rally*. Enquiries: Ken Ashford 4122 2111

28-30 October. *7th Annual Queensland Heritage Rally*, (at Oakey Showgrounds) hosted by Toowoomba & District Old Machinery Soc. Enquiries: Allan Boardman, 0428 547 168. Camping facilities are available. Members are invited to display our cars either for one day or all three days. Registration forms available from Rhonda.

National Rallies

31 Oct.-4 Nov. National Veteran Tour, based at Ulverstone, Tasmania. Newsletter #1 available Veteran Club website, together with entry form and accommodation list.

2017 National Veteran Rally: South Australia
2018 New South Wales
2019 Queensland.

From Wally and Bev.

After some months of planning, many miles of route marking, lots of paper print-outs, our Driving@Dalby became a reality as the local Caravan Park began to fill up with modern caravans and not-so-modern cars. Many hands made quick work of providing extra shade at the Headquarters as well as erecting a borrowed “Celebrating 60 years” banner from the local Associated Grains firm. Extra landscaping was provided by enough potted cotton plants for everyone to take home a souvenir.

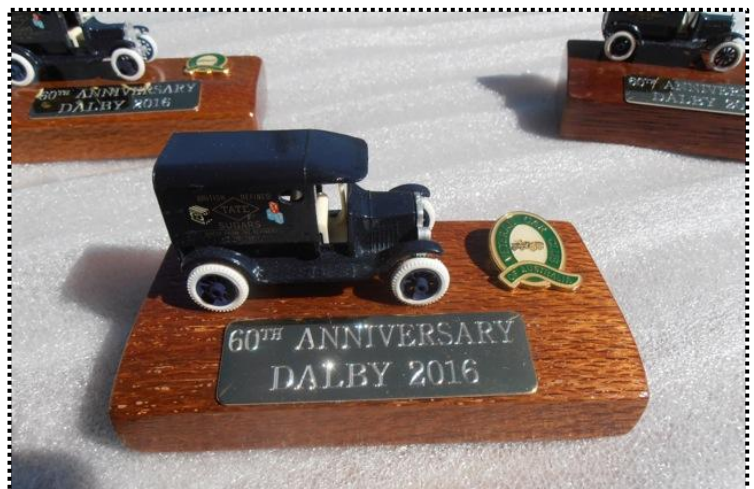


The very eager decided a luncheon stop at Lake Broadwater was in order on Sunday before the registration and Meet and Greet that evening. The Western Downs Mayor, Ray Brown, arrived for Happy Hour and held our attention with facts and figures about the local area.

To date many locals have commented on the presence of the cars in town and the joy it was to see them.

Our thanks go out to Ed and Marilyn for hospitality at the Caravan Park, to John Davies and Western Downs Regional Council and Restored Vehicle Association Dalby for their contributions.

Presented in appreciation to non-Club Members for their contributions



We are gratified to have been able to host so many of our long-time friends and many new found friends on our home ground. It was a pleasure to do this and we wish all those still organizing their 60th Celebration events and those attending as good a time as we have all had.

Driving@Dalby 6 - 11 March 2016

A new year of motoring and the first Rally to start the Veteran Club's progressive 60th anniversary celebrations!

Day 1 Monday 7 March. Drive to Bell. 100km.

Terry and Regie

Excited polished cars, spruced up drivers and passengers gathered at 8.30 sharp at the Rally's HQ/Dalby Tourist Park to the sound of Wally's whimsical wind instrument = horn!

We received a warm welcome to the "Darling Downs Delights" and a mayoral send off by Ray Brown with his very own paparazzi to capture the occasion for eternity.



Tom & Jan Callow in their Renault

Bev's briefs were down to pat including the (daily) reminder: "Don't forget your thermos, cups, eats and chairs". No, Bev, we won't. xox.

We set off through parts of the picturesque town, then meandered along the treeless black soil plains. We were warned that this was bushranger country but we knew the passing police were on the lookout for racing snake Russell and Motoriste Trish!

The morning tea stop was the Memorial Hall in Jimbour to see the restored 1912 Clayton Shuttleworth internal combustion tractor. The whole school arrived, with the grand total of 20 students, to see the 28 cars. In true VCCA Queensland style many of us were dressed in period clothing (or was it their everyday wear?). The most interesting question shyly voiced was "How do you take your car through the car wash?". Brooksie 'kidnapped' an Iranian engineer on his first day in his new job by getting his boss to agree that Mason could only benefit from a 'Wee' trip to Bell.



Jimbour School inspecting the vehicles

Ring ding a ling, it was to beautiful Bell which nestles snugly against the panorama of the Bunya Mountains. Cars were exploring the historic town and its community from left, right and centre. We admired the magnificent colourful murals in the Catholic Church and the biblical gardens. Bell's well-preserved historic railway station and trains, the Community Centre did a scrumptious pie as a lunch option.



Merv & Margaret enjoy a 'cuppa'



Next on the program was local amateur engineering genius Nev Morris's place, where we wondered through his property in absolute amazement seeing his unique mechanical inventions and creations.



Happy Hour was set in the Pioneer Park and Museum grounds back in Dalby, which has one of the largest collections of working tractors and agricultural machinery in Queensland and even a letter from Sir Ned Kelly!

We were then treated to a sit down meal including scrumptious dessert - all prepared by the Pioneer Park Volunteers and funded by the Dalby Council. What an action packed eventful day.

As Tuesday morning was the first official day for the wearing of Period Costume there was much excitement as many photos were taken of the ladies and gents posing in their Edwardian finery before we headed off at 8.30. Unfortunately, the 1911 Albion owned by Rod and Ruth Holmes of Dorrigo stayed behind after suffering terminal gearbox problems the previous day.

Our first stop after a short drive was at the Dalby South State School where the cars lined up beside the school oval and a very welcome morning tea was provided by the students. (This was sponsored by John Davies a local optometrist and member of the Restored Vehicle Association Dalby). Kevin expounded a small discourse of his vast knowledge of veteran vehicles to the students and fielded their questions. Kevin later said that he is always impressed by the considered and varied enquiries of "country kids".

Our thirst satiated we embarked on a scenic and easy 40k drive through vast fields of sorghum and cotton to Jimbour Homestead.

The students, teachers and general public inspected our vehicles and more queries regarding costuming and social history associated with our veteran vehicles were made and discussed. The Dalby Herald photographed many cars and interviewed owners. Enthusiastic Dalby mayor Ray Brown was present and was photographed sitting proudly in Rob and Pam's 1910 Wolseley Siddeley.

The name "Jimbour" is an Aboriginal word for good pastures. The Jimbour Station property was the largest and one of the earliest stations taken up after European settlement was permitted in the 1840s, as 311,000 acres. Many historical features remain which pre-date the house. Interpretive signage throughout the grounds, stables and stalls tells the story of the early days at Jimbour Station. Jimbour is well known as the starting point in 1844 for the famous expedition of Ludwig Leichhardt to Port Essington in the Northern Territory. Jimbour House is unique in Queensland as the only genuinely grand country house of French Colonial style architecture to be built in the State.

Jimbour House was built in 1874 - 1876 by the Bell family. This two-floor sandstone mansion stands today as a lasting reminder of dignified early settlement. It sits as a symbol of old time grandeur on the western downs with soaring sandstone and sweeping gardens.

The sandstone was carted from the Bunya Mountains. 200 men were employed on its construction at a cost of £30,000. The slate for the roof was shipped from Wales. When the family moved in in 1877 the house had its own supply of piped water and produced its own gas for lighting.

It was an ambitious structure in terms of size, style and finish and was intended to support the social and political aspirations of Joshua Peter Bell, an important politician and businessman as well as grazier. His riches came from his expert management of his sheep property and his business acumen.



Although the house is closed to the public as it is a private residence, this did not lessen the experience as we were overcome by the aura of magnificence. Sneak-peeks through the front window - lights revealed a long wide hall floored with an antique carpet runner and crowned with massive crystal chandeliers. It is now used for weddings and operas and

similar functions, alongside the activities of a working property producing fine beef, stud cattle and grain crops. The property now comprises 11,200 acres.

The owners were away but kindly allowed us the run of the extensive gardens for our picnic lunch under the magnificent Moreton Bay Fig, and to position our cars for the purpose of taking photos in front of the house. This we did with great aplomb.

Some of us tried to recreate an atmosphere of the era with poses for "Edwardian style" promenades after lunch. The resultant photos attest to our huge enjoyment of playing at being Edwardians for a day.



Day 3 Wednesday 9 March Distance 130 km.

Bob Burley

This was a modern car day, the steepness of the road up the Bunya Mountains and especially down was considered too steep for the veterans and turned out to be correct. Also it was nice to have a day out of the old cars and tour like a tourist.

As usual a briefing in the van park and most important, order your juicy meat pies for lunch! Our first stop was the Dalby Sale yards, where we were treated to a tour in small groups to see how they operate. The yards have had a 12.6 million dollar upgrade! We saw an auction and I can say I did not see a movement from any of the bidders during the whole transaction other than the auctioneer. From there up on the top rails we went down to the weighing and calculating of the dollars and the beast then is put into the right stall ready for pick up. All very clean and efficient. This yard processes 200,000 animals per year, and it's not the only yard, other towns have yards. When you think about this that's a lot of meat sold locally and going overseas, that's a lot of hamburgers.

Next we were off to the Bunya Mountains. The trip was just another day of endless paddocks, but now we can identify what's in them, Mongrel Beans (mung beans) Cotton and Sorghum, to be made into Ethanol.



The climb up the Bunya Mountains is short but steep and very pretty forests, lots of holloways and lookouts. We learnt about the volcanic activity hence the bald hills, the canopy of rain forest was very pretty, my favourite!

On arriving at Bunya Ave we spread the chairs and started to natter and go for a real coffee to sip on, and you have wallabies with joeys around you. Then the smell of pies in an oven gently wafted so in less than five minutes they ran out. I got the last one from the hot box. Hazel assured me they would have another batch on soon, nobody missed out!

As the group munched our rally guides had arranged for a very good talk about how it all evolved due to volcanic activity then the history of the aborigines and finally the red cedar cutting and milling - the way they got the timber off the mountain fascinated me, simple and very clever. After the talk most went to see the museum and its excellent displays.

Some of we brave souls went for a short walk in the forest, our group were lucky to have Pam to keep us in line.

After some went direct return some toured on to the other end of the area and see some other lookouts they were worth the extra km.

The home voyage was quiet, but then there was happy hour, that must have been compulsory cause everybody always came and the roar of the crowd did attract the locals on their afternoon constitutional.

I say it was a very successful rally, and good company.

Day 4 Thursday 10 March 100km

John Day

Dalby rallies over the years have introduced us city slickers to rural industries. Today was no exception. On the way, we were entertained / amazed by a crop dusting aircraft working beside us as we travelled. How low do they go?? We parked in the middle of a cotton crop to be introduced to some of the intricacies of irrigation crops. We learnt of travelling irrigators, 980 metres long. Of genetically modified cotton that has been engineered to destroy its main pest the boll weevil, without the need for insecticides. (The developers of this strain of cotton charge handsomely for the privilege of using it.) We learnt that cotton fibres are much finer than wool fibres. We all came away with an increased awareness of the trials and tribulations of such large scale farming. Farmers today have to be businessmen, economists and scientists as well as tillers of the soil. Before we left the paddock, we paused for a minute silence, to coincide with the funeral of respected NSW member Peter Adams.

En- route to the next stop, John and Diane Farrier's De Dion had a blowout that saw the tyre heading for the fence. Many hands made the needed repair.



Morning tea stop was under the shade of a tree at the Laffey Family Farm, an organic beef producer. Here we learnt about organic farming, sustainable agriculture and natural ways of rejuvenating tired land. The lady of the house was passionate in her views and we wish her well in her alternative views on rural production.

Lunch was a casual affair on the shores of Lake Broadwater, the only large, naturally-occurring freshwater lake on the Darling Downs. It is an important refuge for waterbirds and other wildlife. The lake is popular for picnicking, walking and birdwatching at any time of year; as well as power-boating, skiing, canoeing and swimming when conditions are suitable.



Dinner was a "pizza and pudding" affair around a camp fire in the caravan park. Bev's plum pudding was at its renowned best.

Day 5 Friday, 11 March. 60kms. Visit to Bartley's Property , Pricey's Garage
and Farewell dinner @ the Dalby Bowls Club. Terry and Regie

The final Rally day! Wally's horn was by now really in need for some serious testosterone injection.

Enough to put you off breakfast starring on the front page of the Rural Weekly Newspaper was Little Allan Carpenter and Raema and a few select 'pick me too' in the centerfold!

The first visit today was to Ningana Retirement Village. A last minute executive decision was made in favour of a 'roll through', the fear being losing some of our club members who might have blended in too well with the residents...if they stopped!

We then drove past Bunya Campus, the residential centre for Agricultural Science before meandering around acres of rich farmland. We were even treated to a flying display from an obligating crop duster.

Through the fertile fields we arrived at Anne and Keith's farmyard extravaganza, with equipment from yesteryear all lined up next to the latest specifications in technology...so we all parked up in front of them – what a photo opportunity! Morning tea was a feast for eyes, body and soul. We learned about chickpeas, sorghum, tailor made harvesting equipment and GPS planting.



A stones throw away and we arrived at Russell "Pricey's Garage" for our lunch stop. There was a garage full of 'featherless' mostly red Indians, a saloon Wild West style, a Corvette and Mustang shining in the sun – and even a tank (or two). What else do you expect in the heart of the rich and famous Darling Downs? Then it was back to HQ to get the country dust off the boots, scrub and glam up for tonight's Farewell dinner at the Bowls Club.

There was lots of lively chitter chatter on the week's events, shared memories about "the good ol' club runs", a cash raffle and even two birthday gals to be! Also lots of "thank you"s to all who made the rally such a successful event and fun. The dinner selection had something for everyone and to top (our glasses) the Dalby Tourist Park hosts Ed and Marjorie shouted us a tab for drinks!



So, between now and the upcoming 1&2 Cylinder Rally, there is just enough time to squeeze in some R & R (retread and restore) arrangements including a 50th and 70th birthday party, routine colonoscopy, specialist doctor's appointment, 2 bionic joint replacements and perhaps the birth of another Grandchild (or two?).

Who says (semi-) retirement is dull...?

FOR SALE

**** TANDEM CAR TRAILER,** Registered until October 2016 Very good condition

- Current Safety Certificate
- Hydraulic over-ride brakes
- Heavy Vinyl cover over metal frame with zip closures
- Secure and waterproof
- Electric Winch
- Inside Measurements=Length-12ft.Height-6ft.Width-6ft

Price: \$4250

Contact: Frank Muggeridge 0409 362 773 or (0438 362 773)



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Some Swap Meets

29 May QVVA Swap. Carina State School

24 July. The Original Gold Coast Swap, Mudgeeraba Showgrounds. Admission \$5; Outdoor Sites \$10, including driver. Stallholders from 5am Sunday, Trading 6am-noon Sunday only. Email: swap.gcaac@gmail.com or David 0428 279 291

25 July. Nambour Swap

10 September Gympie Swap and Car Show.

DISCLAIMER

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A Poem to which many of us can relate.

V.1 I remember the corned beef of my Childhood,
And the bread that we cut with a knife,
When the children helped with the housework,
And the men went to work not the wife.
The cheese never needed a fridge,
And the bread was so crusty and hot,
The children were seldom unhappy,
And the wife was content with her lot.

V.2 I remember the milk from the bottle,
With the yummy cream on the top,
Our dinner came hot from the oven,
And not from a freezer; or shop.
The kids were a lot more contented,
They didn't need money for kicks
Just a game with their friends in the road,
And sometimes the Saturday flicks.

V.3 I remember the shop on the corner,
Where biscuits for pennies were sold
Do you think I'm a bit too nostalgic?
Or is it....I'm just getting Old?
Bathing was done in a wash tub,
With plenty of rich foamy suds
But the ironing seemed never ending
As Mum pressed everyone's 'duds'

V.4 I remember the slap on my backside,
And the taste of soap if I swore
Anorexia and diets weren't heard of
And we hadn't much choice what we wore.
Do you think that bruised our ego?
Or our initiative was destroyed?
We ate what was put on the table
And I think life was better enjoyed

Author, Unknown

If you can remember those days... Continue to enjoy your Retirement

* * * * *



A little bit of.. HUMOUR



[With apologies to our blonde Club Members]

The wife (undoubtedly blonde), picked up the phone, listened a moment and said *'How should I know, that's 200 miles from here!'* and hung up.

Her husband said, *'Who was that?'* His wife replied, *'I don't know, some woman wanting to know if the coast is clear.'*

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A blonde was bragging about her knowledge of State capitals. She proudly says, *'Go ahead, ask me, I know all of them.'*

Her friend says, *'OK, what's the capital of Wisconsin?'*
The blonde replies, *'Oh, that's easy: W.'*

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