

THE VETERAN CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND) INC.

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

VETERAN TORQUE

SEPTEMBER 2020



*At the Crows Nest Dinner Peter presented Phil with
the 100-year Badge for his 1909 Hupmobile,
[the Oldest Hupmobile 20 in Australia]*





VCCA(Q) - 2019 - 2020

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

All correspondence to the Club should be addressed to the following as appropriate:

President:
Treasurer
Secretary

president.vccaq@gmail.com
treasurer.vccaq@gmail.com
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Editor

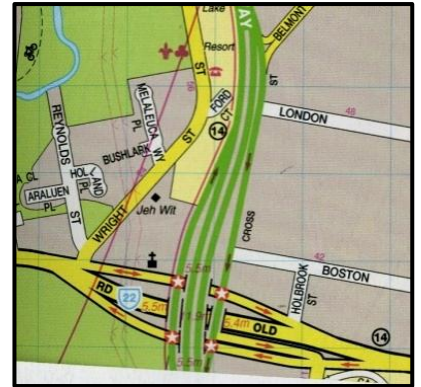
redbubble@picknowl.com.au

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 7.30 pm, and Visitors are always welcome.

The Clubrooms phone number is (07) 3843 0010
The Club website is: www.vccaq.com

Membership fees 2019 – 20 are:.

Full Membership (single):	\$ 70	Joint Membership	\$ 77
Country Membership (single):	\$ 53	Joint Membership:	\$ 58
Associate Membership	\$ 53		
There is an additional joining fee of \$30.			



Note: THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF \$10 FOR THOSE MEMBERS REQUIRING A MAILED OUT COPY.

Membership fees may be paid by **direct deposit** into the Club's Account:
Bank of Queensland A/C 21577447; BSB 124001, giving details of your name.
Or By Cheque, made payable to Veteran Car Club of Australia (Queensland) Inc.
(Please use full name as above to comply with bank requirements.)

Membership Application Forms are available from the Secretary at the address below.

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

email: redbubble@picknowl.com.au

All other correspondence to:

The Secretary, VCCA (Q) Inc.
1376 Old Cleveland Rd, Carindale Qld 4152,
email secretary.vccaq@gmail.com



President's Report

After just a month of freedom we are again back on the restrictions treadmill.

Veteran and Vintage Swap

The new restrictions were announced during the Veteran and Vintage Swap but fortunately we were working under a COVID-Safe Plan and therefore were exempt from the restrictions. As we don't have any attendance records for past swaps, it is hard to make any accurate judgments but most agreed that it was probably the best attended swap so far with thirty two stallholders registered and around 124 people on the grounds and there seemed to be a lot of bits changing hands. We do claim to be a gentleman's swap with advertised start time of 8.00 and most stallholders were on the grounds and setting up between 8 and 8.30. Trading was quite brisk and most I spoke to found something to take home. There were quite a number of people who helped out on the day but I must thank Albert, Russell and Hazel for their work in preparing for the event. I congratulate you all for your efforts.

Crows Nest Rally

The new restrictions have meant that the Crows Nest Rally has had to proceed with some modifications. Fortunately, Crows Nest is just outside the Greater Brisbane Area and as such has a 30 people limit on gatherings either in the home or in public places. Looking at the temperatures for the area leading up to the event, minimums of 1 to 4° with maximums 16 to 20°, I think we will achieve compliance by curling up in bed with the electric blanket on high.

I thank Phil for his efforts in bringing this rally to us in these trying times. It has already been postponed twice and now, with the new restrictions, it is being tweaked even more. Thanks again Phil.

Club General Meetings

It looks like meetings are off the agenda again starting with the September meeting being cancelled. Again, we will just have to monitor the situation to see how long these restriction last.

Working Bee

The volunteers who attended the last working bee did a great job cleaning up the garden east of the building, there is still work to do there but we have to keep something for the next one as garden renovation will continue to be the focus of the Wednesday Social Working Bees. Thanks to all those who attended with the September date of Wednesday 16th.

VCCQ Event

The Vintage Car Club has invited all Veteran Owners to join them on a Queensland Motorists' Day Re-enactment Run over the weekend of 26th and 27th September. This will start from either Esk or Gatton and finish in Warwick on Saturday night and return to your chosen start on Sunday. It is open to all Veteran Vehicles and Vintage Vehicles manufactured up to 1927. Esk to Warwick is approximately 145Km and Gatton to Warwick 100Km.

Lyn and I will be starting from Esk and invite any more adventurous members to join us. Information is included elsewhere in the newsletter.

TAVCCA (The Association of Veteran Car Clubs in Aus.)

Incorporation – Online meetings are still continuing.

COVID Rally Review meeting – An online meeting of interested parties in each State was held during August to discuss the future of National rallies in a COVID environment starting with a very comprehensive and easily understood overview from Julian McNeil, Medical Doctor and prominent member from S.A.. The ensuing discussions confirmed our belief that Charleville 1 & 2 is still in a wait and see mode. With over 6 months to go, it is difficult to predict where the restrictions will be, but we will have to make a call in the next few months.

New Members

A big welcome to returning members, Stuart and Sandra Cornford from Toowoomba with their 1910 Model T Ford and numerous other machines including my 1917 Hudson which is progressing splendidly in their ownership. Welcome to you both and great to see the Ford at Crows Nest.

Looking forward to seeing some of you out and about this month.

Safe motoring,
Peter Arnold

CROWS NEST POST-CORONA LOCK DOWN RALLY REPORT

After watching the minimum temperatures for the last few days, it was time to pack a few more winter woollies and head for Crows Nest. With restrictions in place that limited private gatherings to 30 people in private houses or public spaces, as we were outside the Greater Brisbane Area, we had to develop a plan to make sure we were not in breach of that rule when travelling each day. The venues we were visiting, including our host, all had industry COVID Safer Plans in place, so we were exempt from this restriction but gatherings for morning tea and some other places of interest were not.

Staggered starts with the faster veterans and modern cars leaving first so they would clear the morning tea stop before the slower cars arrived proved a good solution. It also gave our lunch venues a better chance to serve people as they arrived without long delays.

After a few scratchings, mainly due to virus issues like border closures and other restrictions, we had 29 entries with 21 veterans and 8 modern or semi-modern. It was good to see a number of our new members joining us for the event.

Each day we travelled in a different direction although it is inevitable to find yourself on the same roads more than once. Travelling in different directions and the odd sleep in between meant it was still interesting. The bonus was that we hardly saw another vehicle on these quiet back roads and the scenery, while showing signs of drought, was still very pleasant.

Day one we travelled west through Goombungee for the first time, before heading to a park in Brymaroo for morning tea under the cover of a Canberra bomber. An interesting shelter with quite a story to tell. It was then onto a small place, which hardly rates a mention on any of the maps, for lunch. Kulpi, as it is called, was in a lovely spot for a lunch break overlooking the downs but we were soon on the road again with the option of a more challenging route for the larger cars. I'm not sure which route we took as our instructions were missing the last 2 pages, so we had to keep up with the car in front.

There were a few casualties today with most making it back on the road, the exception being Russell Massey's Vauxhall which decided it had had enough when it broke the water manifold which had only been repaired about 20 years earlier. Jenny Sorensen's newly imported 1915 Saxon roadster was having carby issues but managed to finish the rally. Alan Carpenter was nursing the Little but had to finish on the last day on the trailer and both Erik Larsen's T Ford and Ken Wells Renault were also not playing the game for much of the event.



The feature of day 2 was a visit to the Army Air Wing Museum at Oakey. It was a great display of military aircraft, including a box kite airplane similar to that flown by the Wright Brothers. Our host and tour guide was a most enthusiastic chap with the right combination of fact, humour and interesting stories to keep us all interested. Lunch was back in Goombungee before the short trip home.

The third and final day saw us first at Douglas Cemetery near, you guessed it, Goombungee. Here we were able to get an appreciation of the trials and tribulations of the early settlers by the inscriptions on the headstones. Ages ranging from the very young to a few quite old but the causes of death were very telling. Some took morning tea at the cemetery while others frequented the cafés in Goombungee. Lunch today was at the renowned Meringandan Hotel, a popular weekend venue for Toowoomba-ites looking for somewhere to lunch.

Back at home base preparations were being made for the Final Dinner at the onsite restaurant. The curtain raiser was the 50th Anniversary Premiere of the 1970 International Rally video as we had a number of members and a few cars that were on the event. Before dinner, our resident Sergeant at Arms, John Hanley exposed a few misdemeanours and the odd feat of heroism performed during the event and rewarded them with the assorted pieces of junk from his workshop. After a few hundred more rallies, John's workshop should be very tidy.

Finally there were the awards:

Period costume was judged by the world renowned aficionado of fashion and decorum, Russell Massey with the prizes going to Barbara Clegg and Terry and Régie Lewis.

Longest distance travelled to Jenny Sorensen.

Lady driver award to Linda Arnold with me relegated to navigator for most of the rally. Probably accounts for the number of U turns required.

No hard luck prizes were awarded, instead there were two Good Samaritan Awards. One to Bill and Karen Ryan for helping to retrieve the Vauxhall and the other to Bob and Hazel Burley for assistance in retrieving the Little.

Last but not least were the thank-you's to Phil for the splendid organising for the event. I also had the honour of uniting Phil with the 100-year badge for his Hupmobile. The badge didn't come with the car but Greg Hill was able to get the Hoerlein family to part with it so it could go back on the car where it belongs. It was then time to head back out into the cold and home to bed to get ready for the pack-up in the morning and reflect on the most successful first club rally Post Corona Lockdown.

Thank you Phil and we look forward to the next event in Warwick 30th & 31st October and 1st November as long as there are no further restrictions.

Peter Arnold

The following are a selection of photos of "Crows Nest in Pictures" provided by Greg Hill, Kevin & Joyce Brooks and Barbara Clegg, for which the Editor is very grateful.









New members Genny & Russell Stewart from Moore Park (1910 T Ford).



Bob Burley's Hup. Restoration Project

All the people that own them, love 'em! Pretty to look at, easy to drive but it is hard to get one, they are light to tow, don't need a big trailer. My thought was to build one, after getting a chassis, and have now found the front cross-member, I had to make the rear one. The engine is nearly finished, the wet clutch is done, gearbox is complete, the diff. took six months to complete, now has bearings instead of bushes. Mr Ford helped me to now have a variety of ratios. The runabout has 4.1 standard, mine has 3.6, Mr Ford has a 4.1 - what a gentleman. No wonder John and Trevor are so happy with their T Fords.

I have some very rusted mudguards for a pattern, need a fuel tank and a body. Luckily the body is all wood, - must watch out for white ants.

Thanks to our President for bringing his model 20 to my shed so I could do some measuring, it was very helpful.

Bob Burley.



THE CLUB SWAP

[Photos: Greg Hill]





COVID-19 'VCCQ's Queensland Motorists' Day Re-enactment Run'

Entry Form

26 & 27th September 2020 —Return journey to Warwick, Queensland

Invitation to ALL veteran & ALL pre-1927 vintage vehicles

ABOUT YOU: The entrant's (owner's) name:

Address:

Number of passengers: Name/s of passenger/s:

Home phone (incl. area code): Mobile:

Email:

YOUR VEHICLE: Type (please circle): Car/Motorcycle/Commercial/Other (Other

Manufacturer: Year: Model:

Registration No: Cylinders: Car Club:

Nominated starting point (please circle): Esk/Gatton/Clifton)

****Note: You are responsible for your own bookings (please tick the appropriate box if booking)****

Friday: Esk (If overnighing in Esk before the start)

☐ Accommodation: [Esk Caravan Park & Brisbane Valley Rail Trail Motel](#) Ph: 5424 1466 (Quote VCCQ)

☐ Dinner: [Esk Grand Hotel](#) Ph: 5424 1141 (Quote VCCQ)

Friday: Gatton (If overnighing in Gatton before the start)

☐ Accommodation: [Gatton Caravan Park](#) Ph: 5462 1198

Saturday: ☐ Morning Tea: Gatton & District Historic Society (No booking required)

☐ Lunch: [O'Shanley's Irish Hotel, Bar & Restaurant, Clifton](#) Ph: 4697 3288 (Quote VCCQ)

☐ Dinner: [Condamine Sports Club](#) Ph: 4661 1911 (Quote VCCQ)

Accommodation: ☐ [Horse and Jockey Hotel Motel](#), Ph: 4662 0600, ☐ [Jackie Howe Motel](#) Ph: 4661 2111, or

☐ [Warwick Motor Inn](#) Ph: 4660 5600

Sunday: ☐ Light breakfast: (Rotary BBQ beside Leslie Park—No booking required)

Lunch: ☐ [Floating Café, Grantham](#) Ph: 5466 1234 (Quote VCCQ) or

☐ [The Barn and Scotty's Garage](#) Ph: 4697 5334 (Quote VCCQ) (this extends the route by 35 klm)

Note: this is school holidays, so book early!

Important: INDEMNITY FORM—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

I/We the Undersigned hereby agree to and accept the following conditions of entry in order to be eligible to participate in the above named event.

1. I/We shall be bound by any regulations and/or instructions that may be issued by the Tour Director or his agents throughout the above named event.
2. All entrants, vehicles, owners, drivers and passengers enter and participate in the above named event and associated activities solely at their own risk.
3. The Vintage Car Club of Queensland Inc. (VCCQ), its members, organisers, agents and/or sponsors of the above named event accept no liability for any loss or damage or injury suffered to or by any vehicle, entrants, owners, drivers, passengers or any third party by any means, act or omission or through any circumstances.
4. The entrant/s and/or driver/s hereby indemnify and save harmless the VCCQ from all suits, actions, claims, proceedings or demands for damages or loss howsoever arising out of the vehicles, entrants, drivers, passengers or third party participating in the above named event and associate activities.

Return this page only to the VCCQ.

Email: vccq2020@gmail.com or phone: 0415 551 487 (why not just take a photo of your form?)

Or post to: **The Secretary, Vintage Car Club of Queensland Inc.,**
1376 Old Cleveland Rd, Carindale, Qld 4152

Signed: **Date:**2020



The Vintage Car Club of Queensland Inc.

Queensland's original and oldest historic motoring club. Founded 1955

Preserving Queensland's Motoring Heritage

Why Motorists' Day?

In towns and cities everywhere, the first motorists shared the streets with horse drawn vehicles. In Queensland they also shared the same traffic laws. You would be fined if you drove through intersections or around corners above 4 mph (horse speed), if you parked your vehicle at the kerb, with the engine turned off and the park brake applied and were at too great a distance from your vehicle or away from it for more than 15 minutes.

If the £2 fine was not paid, these motorists faced 7 days jail!

Recent research of Queensland newspapers, published over nine years, reveals that motorists were clearly discouraged from coming into towns.

This situation reached a peak with a case being heard every 2 minutes in the Brisbane traffic court. The Motorist's Club (now RACQ) could only warn motorists to be vigilant in observing these laws. In 1925, a deputation to the inspector of police, that included the RACQ president, the Maryborough Chamber of Commerce and others, could not resolve the issues.

In September 1926, Oswald Free, a hire car operator in Warwick, was the first person to enter a plea of 'not guilty' to the charge of leaving his vehicle unattended. With his hire car parked in front of the Langham Hotel, Oswald stayed there overnight to ensure his fare, also a guest at the hotel, met his early train.

Facing a potential fine of £2, he appeared with his garage proprietor, and successfully demonstrated to the court that with his car key in his pocket, he was in full control of his vehicle. The court resolved the matter with a nominal one shilling fine. This precedent finally ended motorists being prosecuted under laws written for horse drawn vehicles.

COVID-19 'VCCQ's Queensland Motorists' Day Re-enactment Run'

26 & 27th September 2020— Esk to Warwick, Queensland

We are holding the 'VCCQ's Queensland Motorists' Day' on the nearest available Saturday to the date of the above-mentioned 1926 event.

Unfortunately, with COVID-19, the event this year is a restricted and compliant version of what we hope to run annually from 2021.

This years proposed two day event, to Warwick and return, is limited to 50 vehicles.

- Starting points (and return): Esk, Gatton or Clifton. (Trailer parking is available at Esk and Gatton).
- From Esk and Gatton, continue along Ma Ma Creek on Route 80 to Clifton.
- Very slow vehicles or locals may join at Clifton and then all vehicles to proceed to Warwick.
- On arriving in down-town Warwick, a welcoming party will greet you in front of the Langham Hotel (now the Condamine Sports Club).
- On parking along Palmerin Street you can take time to admire the heritage listed buildings.
- As you will be *"at too great a distance from your vehicle"* and *"away from it for more than 15 minutes"*, and should you be dressed in your 'flappers' attire, if you break out into a 'Charleston' we will understand.
- We are unable to stay at the Langham Hotel, but we can certainly dine there.
- Be sure to raise a glass to Oswald and our newly named 'Motorists' Day', on this day that motorists were accepted.
- On Sunday, leaving from Leslie Park, we will return to Gatton or Esk, with 2 choices for lunch stops along the way.

Please help us celebrate the COVID-19 'VCCQ's Queensland Motorists' Day', on the 26th and 27th September 2020, by joining us in your pre-1927 motor vehicle (period costume encouraged).

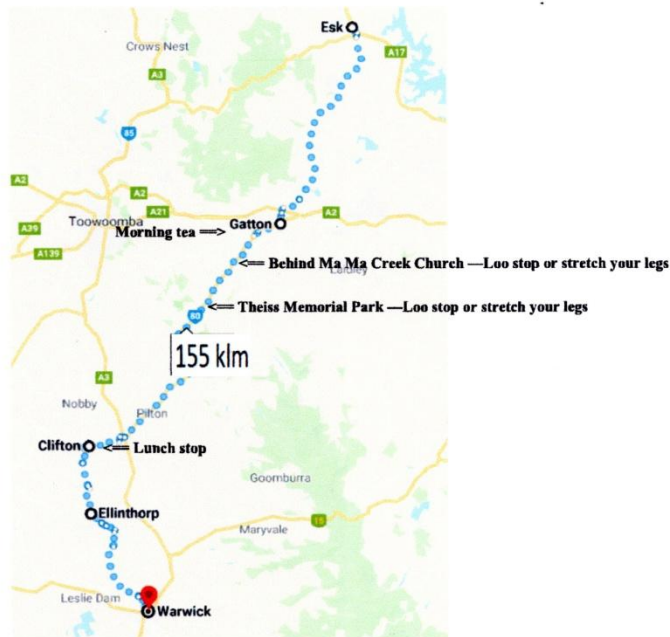


COVID-19 'VCCQ's Queensland Motorists' Day Re-enactment Run'

Route Maps

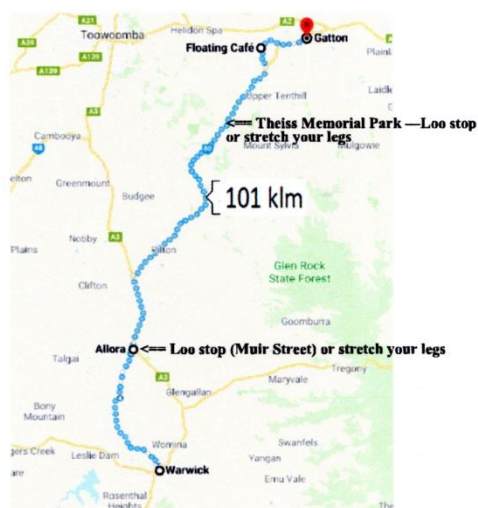
26 & 27th September 2020 —Esk to Warwick, Queensland

26 September —Saturday - 155 klm (Esk to Warwick with lunch at Clifton)



27 September—Sunday (Warwick to Gatton Via Allora)

Via Floating Cafe (101 Klm)



Via Scotty's Garage (136 Klm)



Minutes of the Six Hundred and Sixty Ninth Meeting of the Veteran Car Club of Australia (Qld) Inc.

Held in the Clubrooms at 1376 Old Cleveland Road, Carindale. Monday 3rd August 2020

President Peter Arnold welcomed everyone, thanked them for their attendance, Meeting commenced at 7.40pm

Apologies: Alan & Carolyn Robinson, Rob & Pam Guthrie, Merv & Margaret Thompson, Frank & Kathy Muggerridge, Graham & Irene Donges, Lauren Forster, Glenn Adams, Bev Lollback, Glynn & Diane Hackshall, Iris Anderson, Syd & Pauline Norman, Paul Blake, Allan & Dianne Lyons.

Visitors: Nil

Attendance: 28

Minutes of the March Meeting: Minutes as published in the Club newsletter were taken as read. Hazel Burley moved that they be accepted as a true and correct record Seconded by Alan Carpenter. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence:

Inward:

Request for membership from Andrew & Vicki Thornton.
Received membership form from Russell & Genevieve Stewart.
Model A club request to use clubrooms and grounds on 2/8/2020.
Associations Incorporation form.
Members' subs.
Accounts from CleanZone, Origin & Telstra.

Outward:

Membership form sent to Andrew & Vicki Thornton.
QHMC affiliation form, no charge this year.
Swap flyer sent to all members and some tenant clubs.

Business Arising from the Correspondence: Nil

Hazel moved that the inward correspondence be received and the outward be endorsed, seconded by Trevor Farnell. Carried.

Treasurer Report:

Steve reported on the Club accounts. Steve moved that the report be accepted, and accounts be passed for payment. Seconded Albert Budworth. Carried.
Do need to keep the telephone for the security and the internet.

Events:

August 19th Working bee.
August 22nd Veteran Swap.
August 25th – 27th Crows Nest rally, Phil to send our email to all entrants.
October 30th – November 2nd Warwick rally. Halloween on 30th Oct, London to Brighton Emancipation Run on Sunday 1st Nov. A silver cup from the 1934 RAC London to Brighton rally will be the prize. Rally will include a ride on a steam train and a visit to Keith Wilson's wheel works.
December 19th Christmas party and Handover dinner.
VCCQ have an invitation rally on 26th & 27th September for all veteran cars and vintage up to 1927, rallying from Esk to Warwick then back to Esk.

The Burdekin rally was cancelled so the locals held the rally, it was so successful they are looking at having an annual event.

Property Report:

Next working bee is on Wednesday 19th August 2020. Had several comments from the Model A Club on how tidy the grounds are, we now have a mowing contractor coming once a month. Thanks to all the members who came to the last working bee, they removed the garden by the fence, the timber from there will be used in the front garden. Security, we now have cameras everywhere, one cable had corroded it has now been replaced.

Dating Report: Nil

QHMC: QHMC has a new website, look under New QHMC. They are looking at the constitution and the by-laws. The AGM is in September. Need clarification on what QHMC is doing, need to focus on Queensland car clubs. There is a meeting with TMR, the first meeting for this year.

SAG Report: Look at doing the disabled toilet and shower this year. Need to replace the concrete.

Web Master: Looking at archiving all the Veteran Torque to the Members' page on the website, the current magazine will stay on the website for 1-2 months then go to the Members' page. The password for the members' page will be on your membership card and only change once a year, this has not been set up yet. Looking at putting the minutes of the meetings on the members' page only and not printed in the magazine in the future.

Editor Report: Need articles for the magazine.

General Business:

There was only one book printed for the 2020 TAVCCA membership, previously there were two books, one with the names and one listing all the cars, on the new TAVCCA website you can now print out an alphabetical list of the cars and their owners but with no details about the owners.

On 23rd August there is a TAVCCA meeting to discuss changes that should be made for National rallies, eg catering etc, due to this ever-changing world. Charleville and Swan Hill are still under discussion. Also discussing incorporation for TAVCCA and looking at the National constitution. Should have a draft document to bring to the next meeting.

Had a quote from Origin to install solar panels and batteries, the cost was over \$15,000, had a few questions, could the batteries run the evening meetings and how long would it take to charge them up after they have been drained. Our quarterly cost is around \$175, the repayments would be \$600 per month. The life of the batteries and the inverter is only 10 years, it would take 12 years to repay. How would we benefit from this?

Recently rang Trans Urban about the drainage which should have been completed by 30th June, some work had been postponed because of Covid 19.

Alan Carpenter reported that Ken Birchill, who recently passed away had a lot of stuff, two vintage cars, 27/28 4 door Chrysler sedan with a lot of spares and a 2 door Chrysler sedan. There is also a Maxwell which is painted and ready to go on the chassis, upholstery needs to be done, when it is completed it will be sold.

Albert Budworth not sure whether the VCCQ yearly concours was going to be held at Ormiston House or at the club grounds.

An inquiry about when would we have more VCCAQ stickers available for sale. Committee to investigate. John Day put on the 1990 All Veteran Rally in Warwick for us to watch, which was enjoyed by all, Thanks John.

Meeting Closed 8.45 pm.

Hazel Burley Peter Arnold.....

Secretary
Veteran Car Club Australia (Qld) Inc

President
...Veteran Car Club Australia (Qld) Inc

Articles and advertisements appearing in *Veteran Torque* are published in good faith on the understanding that the content is legitimate, and no responsibility for their accuracy is accepted.

Opinions expressed herein are solely the views and opinions of the contributors and are not necessarily the views and opinions of the Management or Membership of the VCCA(Q) Inc.

The monthly *Veteran Torque* is printed by Gawdy Green Copy and Print (Ipswich,) whom we acknowledge for their friendly and efficient service, sometimes at short notice.

Syd and Pauline discovered the following, which they thought might be of interest to members to have a look at. There are a number of coffee shops nearby.

Constantine's Bell

Although the Roman Emperor Constantine lived so many centuries ago, in the early years of the 300's, over 1,600 years ago, we have here in Brisbane an actual connection with Constantine the Great himself.

In a special iron framework at the side entrance of St Augustine's Anglican Church, at number 9 Charlton Street in the suburb of Hamilton, Brisbane, hangs a heavily tarnished brass bell. But it is more than just an old bell, as it is thought to be the oldest bell in the world.

Embossed with figures of Christ the King, the Virgin Mary and the Infant Jesus, the history of this bell shows that it was first hung in a Church in what is now Romania, by the Roman Emperor Constantine, in 320 A.D. but twelve years after he had granted liberty of worship to the Christian population.

This bell called Christians to worship until 1410 A.D. when the area was overrun by the Turks. The Church then became a Mahommedan (sic) Mosque, and the bell continued to call the faithful to prayer to Allah until 1918 when World War I made the area a battleground once again. The Mosque was destroyed in the fighting as Allied Troops occupied the town. Embers of a British Regiment rescued the bell from amongst the ruins, taking it to the Bulgarian port of Varna on the Black Sea coast. They buried it there in the sand, intending to salvage it later and take it to England.



However they had not reckoned with the crew of the Australian ship, the "Melra"*, whose members souvenired the bell and smuggled it on board their ship, intending to present it to their Captain, William Campbell Thomson of Brisbane. The bell travelled to Sydney as ballast, but on arrival it was confiscated by the Customs officials. The Marine Superintendent of the Shipping Line, Captain H. Tyrer, intervened, and the crew was allowed to give the bell to Captain Thomson.

Believing that the bell was too valuable to lie in his private collection, Captain Thomson handed it over to the authorities of the Church of England, who decided that the bell should hang as a War Memorial at St Augustine's, and once again it called the faithful to prayer.

Progress finally caught up with the old bell when a new bell tower was built as an RAAF Memorial. The old bell was retired in favour of a new, louder, electronically operated bell installed in 1967, and Constantine's Bell was erected in the special framework where it now stands.

Ironically the last time the old bell was rung was during the disastrous 1974 flood, when the electrical system of the new bell was put out of order by the heavy rains.

Constantine the Great died on May 22, 337 A.D. and was buried in the Church of the Twelve Apostles at Constantinople, now Istanbul.

[Author unknown. Compiled by St Augustine's Church, Hamilton]

The bell plaque reads, 'The Eastern Church Bell, rescued by the Allies in 1918 from a ruined mosque, is here restored to Christian use in memory of the HEROIC DEAD, being the gift of Capt. and Mrs. W. Campbell Thomson'.

* [Editor's Note: I have searched exhaustively for information on an Australian Ship named the "Melra" but have not been able to discover any record of a ship carrying this name around the time of WWI. – or indeed any other time.]



MARKET PLACE - FOR SALE

The late Sam Hecker of Maryborough was a noted restorer of veteran cars, particularly De Dions, many years ago. His family now wish to sell the **1915 MODEL T PROJECT** in the attached photos. It is located in Maryborough Queensland.



Also for sale is an older restoration of a **1909 RENAULT BK MODEL** open touring car, similar to Dame Nellie Melba's car. Below are photos of the car in its heyday. It was a well finished restoration and was said to be a good running car around 20 years ago when it was last run. Sadly it is not like that now due to less than ideal storage.



It is thought that the right person with an amiable approach will find other "treasures" in amongst the "junk" stored for decades.

Anyone interested should contact Diana Hecker by phone on 0414 719 245.

Or Email voicing14@gmail.com

WANTED

*** 2 CYLINDER SWIFT TRANSMISSION BRAKE**

Contact: Keith Collins, Ph. 02 6679 4104 Mob. 0427 193 411;

Email: noelaandkeith007@bigpond.com



EVENT CANCELLATION

It is with regret that The Darling Downs Veteran and Vintage Motor Club Inc. advises that it has come to the decision that the 2021 Toowoomba Swap be cancelled. The health, safety and welfare of our swap patrons, swap site-holders, swap volunteers, club members and the community at large is the primary concern of the club. This concern, together with State Government restrictions in place for the operation of events the size of the Toowoomba Swap compels the Club to take this action.

An event the size of the Toowoomba Swap requires a lot of planning, which had already begun, and involves considerable expenditure prior to the event. The uncertainty which exists in relation to COVID-19 creates an unacceptable risk should circumstances change and would mean that if at short notice the Swap suddenly cannot be held as planned, there would be serious financial implications, as well as inconvenience for Swap Site-holders.

All current swap site bookings will be rolled over to the 2022 Swap to be held on 5 and 6 February, 2022, unless a site-holder would prefer a refund. Site-holders who wish to receive a refund should notify the Club's Booking Office via email at bookings@toowoombaswap.com or by phone on 0400 345 564 before 31st December, 2020. Swap site bookings that are cancelled would not be reserved for the 2022 Swap.



Two Canadian Russell Cars in the Australian Bush

A little bit of.. HUMOUR

An elderly man in Queensland had owned a large property for several years. He had a dam in one of the lower paddocks where he had planted mango and avocado trees. The dam had been made suitable for swimming when it was built and he had also put some picnic tables in the shade of the fruit trees.

One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the dam to look it over, as he hadn't been there for a while. He grabbed a ten-litre bucket to bring back some fruit. As he neared the dam, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his dam.

He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end. One of the women shouted to him, *'We're not coming out until you leave!'*

The old man frowned, *'I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the dam naked.'* Holding the bucket up he said, *'I'm here to feed the crocodile'*

Moral: Old men may walk slowly, but they can still think fast!

