



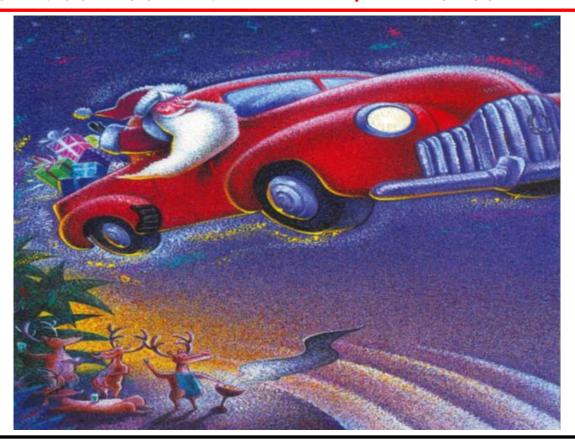
# RECOLLECTIONS

Official Newsletter of the Werribee and District
Collectable Vehicle Club (Inc.)
PO Box 841 Werribee 3030
Inc. Reg. No. A0024084P
ABN 575 840 445 12

www.wdcvc.org.au (E-Mail: - wdcvc@hotmail.com)

**DECEMBER 2023 EDITION** 

THE WDCVC COMMITTEE WISH ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



FIRST GENERAL MEETING FOR 2024 is WEDNESDAY 28th FEBRUARY (7.30pm)
PLEASE NOTE: NO MEETING IN JANUARY

#### The Werribee and District Collectable Vehicle Club (Inc.)

Was formed in June 1991 to foster and advance interest in History, Restoration, Care and Preservation of Classic and Historic Motor Vehicles. It provides an avenue for sharing of information by owners of those vehicles. The Club is a not-for-profit organisation. We welcome as members all those interested in preservation of our motoring history.

Club regularly conducts events, monthly runs for its members and assists community organisations with attendance at community events, retirement homes, parades and car shows.

The Club's recently constructed Club Room caters for a range of activities such as Club gatherings, meetings and is often our starting point for runs.

Generally our members come from those who own vehicles over 25 years old, but this is not a prerequisite for membership, anyone is welcome.



# Happy Birthday to All MEMBERS HAVING A BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH Heather O'Brien, Amanda Smith, Evelyn Agosta, Jenny Watt & Tess Spiteri And a very Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Tony Galea

If you would also like to receive a birthday shout out, email our editor Jenny (magoos\_4@bigpond.com) advising birthday month for yourself and your better half.



## Our best wishes to the following members.

- Laurel Porter slowly recovering from two strokes, we wish her and Mick all the best with coming challenges.
- Elio and Peter continuing with their individual health battles. Keep up the good fight guys.
- Over past 12 months we had a number of members or their wives receive new hips and knees. We sincerely hope you're all recovering well.
- John Agosta (Snr) recovering at home and with his daughter from heart operation. Give
   John a call at home as he likes to hear what's happening.

GET WELL WISHES ALSO TO ANY CLUB MEMBER WHO MAY CURRENTLY BE FEELING POORLY



## **WDCVC Life Members**

Gil Taylor (Dec)
John Agosta (Jnr)

Sandy Taylor (Dec) Charmaine Agosta

Les Turner Elio Massari

## Club's December General Meeting with Christmas Breakup Supper

was a wonderful way to finish of a great year. There were a huge number of raffle prizes to be won and food a plenty!

The two major Christmas Raffle prizes were Lyn Cook's prized Christmas Cake and Victoria Miskolczi's grand Plum Pudding.

The lucky winners were Harmony White and Jenny Matthews.

Many thanks to Lyn and Victoria for the generous donation of their glorious homemade delights.







Sadly Nick Calleja lost his father recently.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Nick, Carmel and the entire family.





Gidday! The Mo has left the building, well at least for the next 11 months.

Thank you to those who donated, but rest assured, its not too late! The link is below.

My target for Movember 2023 was \$600 and so far I have raised \$385.

https://au.movember.com/donate/details?memberId=14535216

## Werribee & District Collectable Vehicle Club (Inc.)

Registration Number A0024084P ABN 575 840 445 12

# CONTACTS for WDCVC COMMITTEE July 2023 to June 2024 Mail to P.O. Box 841 Werribee 3030

E-MAIL: wdcvc@hotmail.com

Name	E-Mail	Phone	
Executive Committee			
President			
Colin Pierce (Shirley)	colin@colshirl.com	0413 884 234	
Vice President			
Daniel Smith (Amanda)	Djs84@outlook.com.au	0408 328 028	
Secretary/Public Officer			
Carmel Calleja (Nick)	wdcvcsecretary@gmail.com	0421 305 721	
Treasurer			
Jenny Matthews (Rod)	magoos_4@bigpond.com	0422 699 361	
<b>General Committee</b>			
Heather O'Brien	hethaob@bigpond.net.au	0411 239 446	
Connie Mallia (Ronnie)	c.m.62@hotmail.com	0439 619 083	
Office Bearers			
Club Captain			
Editor & Publisher			
Jenny Matthews (Rod)	magoos_4@bigpond.com	0422 699 361	
Mid-Week Run Captain			
Les Turner (Lorraine)		9741 6657	
Safety Officers			
Elio Massari (Nancy)		9741 6103	
Charlie Cook (Lyn)		9741 3328	
Club Permit Officer/s			
Yves Schieseck (Sandra)	breton29@aussiebroadband.com.au	9749 3376	
Wayne Rodgers (Jen)	waynerodgers.61@gmail.com	0405 380 005	
Colin Pierce (Scrutineer)	colin@colshirl.com	0413 884 234	
Regalia Officer			
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<u>Librarian</u>			
Peter Kime (Patricia)	pjkime@hotmail.com	0409 798641	
Web & Face Book Monitor			
Daniel Smith (Amanda)	DJS84@outlook.com.au	0408 328 028	
Welfare Officer			
Rose Ravaneschi	sirbas53@hotmail.com	0412 456 892	
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Colin Pierce (Shirley)	colin@colshirl.com	0413 884 234	
Michael Galea (Linda)	mgal6416@gmail.com	0421 670 304	
<u>Council Representative</u>			
Colin Pierce (Shirley)	colin@colshirl.com	0413 884 234	
Financial Consultant- Werribee Accounting			

#### **VICROADS CONTACTS and CLUB BANKING DETAILS**

VicRoads Melbourne:

Switchboard 1800 816 727,

Club Permit Scheme (CPS): 9854 2674 Web Site: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

W.D.C.V.C. CLUB BANKING DETAILS: (For Direct Deposits) GREAT SOUTHERN BANK: BSB# 814282 ACC# 10495827

ACC Name: Werribee & District Collectable Vehicle Club





## Calendar of W.D.C.V.C's Upcoming Events

# W.D.C.V.C Extends an Invitation to Members of any Registered Club to attend any run or event organized by our club.

		1			
EVENT	Date	Time	Coordinator		
JANUARY					
COFFEE MORNING - Little Growling Café 2 Resin Street (Mamborin) Wyndham Vale. Note: TRIAL MEET TIME 10.30am	Sunday 7th	10.30am	Colin 0413 884 234		
First Committee Meeting for 2024	Monday 8th	7:30pm	Colin 0413 884 234		
First Club Run for 2024 - BYO PICNIC BBQ. Arrive 10:30-11:00am. CHERRY LAKE RESERVE ALTONA Enter off MILLERS Road opposite STIRLING AVENUE	Sunday 14th	10:30am	Colin 0413 884 234		
"NO" GENERAL MEETING in January					
FIRST Casual Sunday for 2024	Sunday 14th	9.30am	John 0407 546 235		
FEBRUARY					
COFFEE MORNING - VIEWS CAFÉ K Road Werribee South Note: TRIAL MEET TIME 10.30am	Sunday 4h	10.30am	Colin 0413 884 234		
Committee Meeting	Monday 5th	7:30pm	Colin 0413 884 234		
TINKERS INFORMATION DAY Revival Brake Restoration Division, 7 East Derrimut Crescent, Derrimut. BBQ Provided after Tour	Wednesday 7th	10.30am	Colin 0413 884 234		
Club MID-WEEK RUN - Clifton Springs GOLF CLUB. Meet at BP S/S Geelong bound Highway, Little River. Bookings essential. Ring Les with number to attend.	Wednesday 14th	10.30am	Les Turner 0408 014 358		
Casual Sunday Meeting	Sunday 25th	9.30am	John 0407 546 235		
FIRST Club General Meeting for 2024 (Club Rooms)	Wednesday 28th	7.30pm	Colin 0413 884 234		

The above events are in accordance with the WDCVC & Vic roads Club Permit Scheme. If you wish to use your red plate vehicle, a reminder that you will need to correctly fill in your red plate permit scheme log book and be a financial member. At the time of printing the above information was correct. The Committee may change the information at their discretion. Any changes will be published in the Newsletter / Website / Facebook. Symbols of events are Club Runs in *Bold*, and all other runs organised by Vic roads or other clubs will be in normal font.



## WDCVC minutes of General Meeting held: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

Chairman: Colin Pierce Vice President: Apologies

Meeting opened: 07:35pm Meeting closed: 8:20pm

Visitors: Nil Speaker: Nil

Apologies: Reno Polidano, Andrew Babbage, Rob Elliott, Luke and Brian Daly, Maria Turner, Ronnie Mallia, Mark Reilly, Mitch Jones, Heather O'Brien, Trevor Ryan, Daniel Smith, Carmel Calleja, Charles Pace, Alf Schembri,

Neil Jensen, Mick Gales, Frank Caruso, Ian Cameron.

Minutes of previous meeting:

Comments/Questions: Nil Moved & Accepted: 1<sup>st</sup> David Williams 2<sup>nd</sup> Vicky Tibor

Minutes of Committee Meeting Held on 6th November: Read by Colin in Carmel's absence

#### **Correspondence:**

 Australia Post monthly invoice, Notice from Great Southern Bank regarding term deposit rollover, Club Insurance Invoice, Advertisement from GTS Gauge Restoration in WA,

Moved & Accepted as presented: 1<sup>st</sup> Wayne Rodgers 2<sup>nd</sup> David Williams.

Treasurers August Report to: 31/10/2023 Presented by Jenny Matthews (Treasurer)

Comments/Questions: A member asked about which Bank the Club was using.

Moved & Accepted as presented: 1<sup>st</sup> Shawn Vanroosmalen 2<sup>nd</sup> Connie Mallia.

#### President's ramblings:

- Colin thanked all members who attended FOX Museum last Sunday, great turnout of 120 which was great. Russell spoke about how good he felt the visit was and especially a 1936 Mercedes.
- Colin mentioned the Club might be interested in holding a catered event at the Museum, what form it takes and costs yet to be determined.
- Community Car Show at Bunnings Hoppers Crossing this Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>, more members with club vehicles would be nice. Daniel Smith will coordinate the day.
- Encouraged as many members as possible attend the Club final Casual Sunday for 2023 this Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November. Colin paid tribute to John and all club members who volunteer, with setting up, making Coffee's, Cooking BBQ, over the past 11 months.
- Colin thanked Kerry Duke with Len Shutt's assistance for updating and installing Club Honor Board. Board now needs to be updated with missing names for past few years.

#### **Club Coming Events Report:**

- Community Car Show Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November at Bunnings Hoppers Crossing 10:30 ~ 1:30.
- Final Club Casual Sunday for 2023, let's try to makes it a good one with plenty of members with Club Vehicles.
- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December is Club Picnic Day and Children's Christmas party at Little River 12noon to 4PM, Santa due to arrive about 3:00pm.
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December is Club last General meeting for 2023 and will be followed with a Supper. If anyone would like to bring a plate it would welcome.
- At last meeting it was tabled about possibility of Club organizing a "Tinkers Run", to various workshops. Based
  on positive feedback from members our first one is planned for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Location is a
  Brake component machining and restoration business in Derrimut, company offered to provide members with a
  free BBQ after tour. Please advise Colin if you wish to attend, maximum number is 50 people.

#### Social secretary's report: Connie Mallia

- Christmas party for kids is all under control. Connie with great support from Tony and Connie Galea completed.
- Raffles have been arranged for the day
- 13<sup>th</sup> December last General Meeting for the year.

## President's Report



#### **December PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe that this is our Club's last newsletter for 2023, where has the year gone.

I would like to wish everyone on behalf of Shirley and I *A Very Merry Christmas and HAPPY, SAFE and HEALTHY* **2024**, we both very much appreciate all the friendship shown to us by Club members over the years.

To all our members who continually stomp up to volunteer at Club events a big heart felt thank you from me and your fellow members.

To my fellow hard working committee members once again you have made me look good, for without your dedication Club would not function.

Even after so many years at the helm as President of our Club I still take great pleasure being involved and enjoy our Club and collector vehicle movement in general.

To any member who over past 12 months lost a loved one or are suffering ill health, please be assured Club members continue to have you in their thoughts. The Club is here to assist anyone doing it tough, it's part of what our Club represents, 'family'.

We had a great turn out of members and wives for Club's final meeting for 2023 on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December followed by supper.

#### \*\*\*Please NOTE.

At our December meeting a proposal was tabled for discussion whether we cancel January Club General meeting. After discussing by members proposal was voted on and accepted by large majority of members.

A January Newsletter will still be sent out as normal but without a MARS bar quiz.

Please monitor your Monthly Club's Newsletter to read about upcoming events.

Please be Safe on Our Roads over this Holiday Season



The Prez.

### CLUB RUN TO LINDSAY FOX CAR MUSEUM—SUNDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2023

A clear sunny morning greeted us as I picked up my co-pilot/ navigator Lindsay. We were off to the Lindsay Fox Classic Car Museum and they were opening the doors just for our club.

Leaving home at 8.00 am to make sure we had more than enough time to get there even if we got lost.

"We won't get lost", and much to our surprise, we didn't. In fact, we were there in plenty of time, even going around the block after we hadn't seen the entry for the car park.

About 20 minutes later the gate was opened and cars started flowing in.

Prez Colin got our attention for some last-minute instructions, then we headed into the Museum. Some of us went on guided tours while others just walked around admiring cars that none of us could ever afford, but nevertheless, nice to look at.

The Fox Collection Classic Car Museum is housed in the historic Queen's Warehouse and contains dozens of the world's most rare and prestigious vehicles. These cars have been collected over a 50-year period by Lindsay Fox.

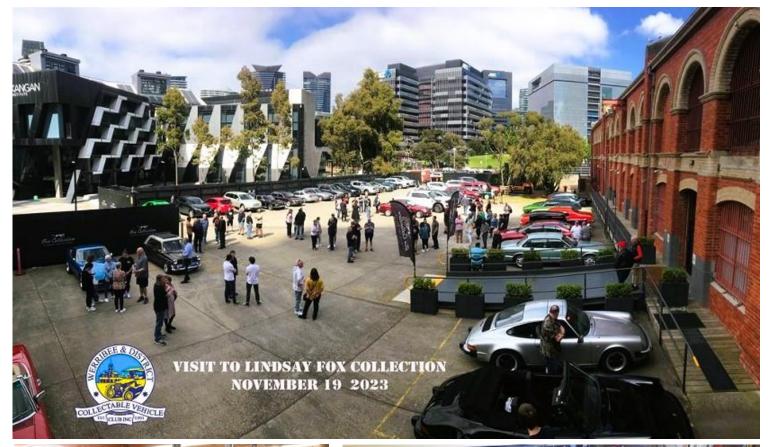
The Queen's Warehouse was constructed in 1890 and was first used to administer the colonial customs regulations. Following Australia's federation, the building was used by Federal Customs.

At about 11.30 am it was time to head off.

A big thanks to our Prez Col for organizing a great day out!

And to all 121 members and visitors that attended.

**Rod Matthews #400** 





































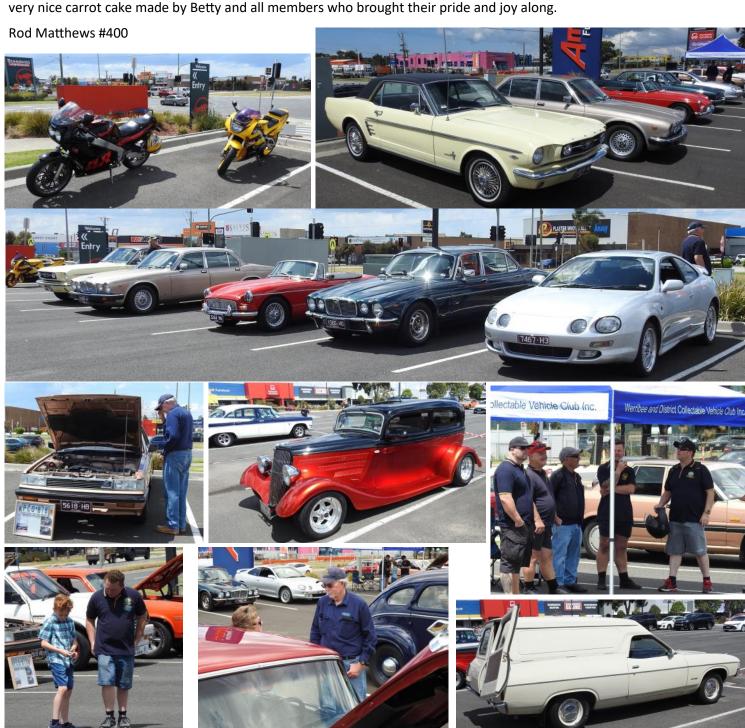


## **BUNNINGS HOPPERS CROSSING CAR DISPLAY 25.11.23**

Bunnings Warehouse was the place to be with 17 cars and bikes for display as a part of their Black Friday sale on a warm, humid Saturday morning. A good mixture of cars and bikes turned up. Daniel and CJ in their 1986 Nissan Pintara, Tibor and Vicky in their 1957 Chev, Peter Sapurmas in his 58 Dodge Custom Royal. Representing the bikes of our club was Ray Hill's Suzuki RGV 250 and Dom Campos' Yamaha which shows our club is not just about cars.

Bunnings Hoppers Crossing supplied those attending with a free sausage in bread and a can of drink. They also donated \$100.00 worth of gift vouchers which were raffle prizes at our Christmas breakup.

Thanks to Daniel for running the event with some help from son CJ, to Werner for bringing along club gazebo and some very nice carrot cake made by Betty and all members who brought their pride and joy along.









# Club Children's Christmas Party Held in Little River Hall 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023









# A Good Little Show.... CSM Sunday Nov 26th 2023

Despite the rain, quite a few turned out for the monthly CSM, although there was a predominance of "modern" machines stacked in at Cherry Street. At 5:00am we had heavy rain, and later the BOM radar was clear, but a light drizzle persisted. The crew erected two marquees, one over the BBQ to keep the cooking team dry, but by 9:00am, all was clear.

Exceptional member cars were Tibor's '57 Chev, Trevor Ryan's '70 Monaro, Mick Galea's '65 AP6 Safari wagon in startling turquoise, Lindsay's Jag XJ6, and Braeden Harris' Chev Nova. Mick has always been a Mopar man, with the occasional diversion such as his Falcon GT. The AP6 was an opportunistic barn find in Wangaratta which Mick just happened to see on Marketplace. Two previous owners had kept it in a shed for over 20 years, so the car was not as worn as you might imagine, being just 58 years young. Not yet registered, it arrived wearing Mark Reilly's trade plates.

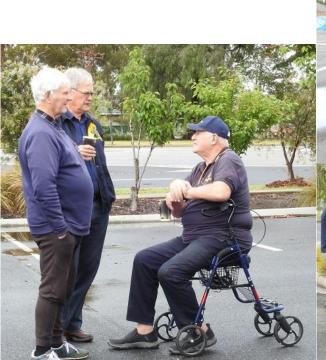
To keep you in the picture, the Safari keeps company with the rest of Mick's fleet: the Landcruiser, the TransAm, the Jeep, the Falcon GT, the Valiant S sedan, the caravan and Linda's everyday driver. What next? Peter Farrugia's BMW coupe failed to start, so his late model Cruiser had to suffice.

The Orr family showed an LH Torana with plenty of potential for restoration. The 253ci V8 is a nice fit in these smallish cars. Another "work in progress" is visitor Stan Oxley's 1999 VL Commodore. The 3.8L V6 has adequate grunt, but Stan has ambition for a supercharger, hence the cowl on the bonnet. Stan is handy and made the scoop plus a modified spoiler at the rear, and a few other mods under the lid. "Don't make it too hot looking or the cops will be targeting you?" Stan: "They already are."

With chef Mark Reilly in Tasmania, Linda Ho led the cooking team, ably assisted by Heather and Emmy. Captain Rose and Connie G worked the desk and the bevvys. Crew consisted of Lindsay, the two Brians, John Ryan, Yves, Tony G and Gary Kennedy. Gary then nicked off to Melton to work on Sam Pernice's veteran clunker.

Werner brought along the club's printed marquee, which was deployed at Bunnings the day prior. Poor Werner, had to get up early AND brave the rain in his 50yo XA-XB Falcon panel van, which he bought new in 1973. Still looks like showroom.

Thanks to staff and crew, and those who braved the elements to put on a show.



Next CSM is Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.





# A Lifetime of Motor Sport and Industry.....

Keep an eye open when you attend one of our general meetings or the Casual Sunday Morning and you will notice a well-presented mature age gent driving a spotless big 1960's-70's Ford sedan or coupe. Ian Cameron joined the WDCVC in earlier days and was a mate of founding member the late Gil Taylor.

Ian is quietly spoken, almost laconic, but he has a huge background in automotive competitive sports, and a similar one with his contribution to most aspects of automotive commerce, spanning nearly 65 years.

lan first felt the urge after spying on his back neighbours the Cox brothers from his garden shed roof. They were building hot rods to be raced at Tracey's Speedway in Maribyrnong, and soon noticed the young kid, then inviting him around to get involved. Ian's first job was sign-writing the Cox brothers speedway cars. Ian's love of cars, competitive spirit and technical skills led to a lifetime of involvement, from apprentice mechanic, car owner and builder, administrator, race driver, garage owner, and trucking operator.

lan is retired now, but he keeps a pair of Ford club cars, a 1971 Fairlane and a 1965 Galaxie. The Fairlane is stock, but an engine swap and a few other refinements has the Galaxie in racing trim. When the Galaxie was offered for sale, lan's daughter Alison had to remind him that the Galaxie was promised to her. Three daughters, three cars.

Born and bred in Werribee, Ian is a local boy through and through. He commenced an apprenticeship as motor mechanic at AMI in Port Melbourne in 1960, working on Triumphs and Vanguards, and later Ramblers and eventually Toyotas.

Toyota in Australia is a huge subject on its own. The story commences in 1959 when Theiss Bros began importing Land Cruiser vehicles for the Snow Mountains hydro scheme. Toyota acquired a share of AMI in 1968, and also gained control of Theiss Bros. Early models Tiara and Crown, and the first Coronas were assembled at AMI's Port Melbourne plant. The Altona complex was conceived, and engines were produced there in 1978, followed by panels and eventually full assembly of Camrys and associated models. Ian's time at Toyota was interspersed with other ventures, but he finished there as head of quality control. Ian retired in 2008 due to his wife's illness.

lan's first car was a Phase 1 Vanguard, but this was too slow for a young man in a hurry. He traded the Vanguard back and acquired an FX Holden. This was faster, but the inherent speed bug got the best of him, and he was soon driving a Mini Cooper, which received three engine upgrades, and was then replaced by an S Series Valiant.



Ian receiving sponsorship from the Sidchrome manager

lan's first race was at Tracey's Speedway, then graduating to the Brooklyn track and various country venues. As well as his job at AMI, Ian worked part time at Motor Improvements, and became heavily involved in the racing scene, both as mechanic and driver. Ian soon found himself at Bathurst for the Mt Panorama gigs, as mechanic in 1965, 66 and 67. In earlier days you prepared the car, drove it to Bathurst, raced all day, and if you finished in the top three, you had to strip the car for the scrutineers, then re-assemble and drive it back to Melbourne. Ian's fingerprints would have been all over the 1968 factory entered Corolla which came in first in its class.

Local race driver Don Toffolon enjoyed Ian's mechanical wizardry on a "very quick" Ford Zephyr. Ian was also heavily involved in the drag racing scene. Those days the "Drags" was conducted along the airstrip at Fishermans Bend. In partnership with Steve Russell, their home-built dragster "Night Moves" had considerable success. Ian was instrumental in the formation of Australia Nostalgic Racers, which kept the more modest dragsters and drivers in action.

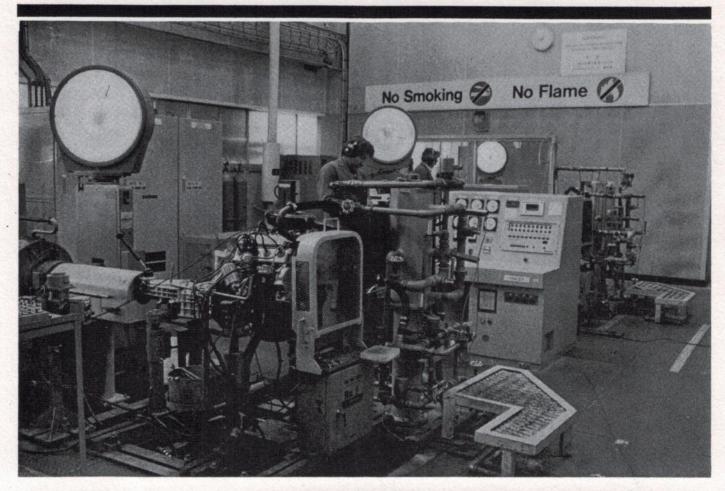


Pictured: Night Moves - Ian Cameron and Steve Russell at Heathcote

Ian "pinched" a girlfriend Diane from a mate when he attended a function at short notice. She liked that Ian was a non-drinker and non-smoker and they were married in 1969. In 1970 he purchased a new Falcon GT which he proudly drove home, but unfortunately Diane wasn't impressed by the colour, so he traded it back for the ZD Fairlane, which is still in great shape after 53 years. Soon Ian became a family man with three daughters, and Diane had to remind him of the risks involved in the racing scene.

No-one could achieve a record like lan's without weathering a few setbacks. He lost a good wife around six years ago and got through the Covid pandemic somehow. Then he needed open-heart surgery and survived a tough recovery. After all this his good fortune returned and he found a new partner, coincidentally another Diane. Life's better now says Ian. His everyday driver, a little MX-5 rode a bit rough for a person recovering from major surgery, so he bought a new Mazda 6. (With a turbo says Ian, a little defensively).

lan agreed to share his lifetime story, and we took him to coffee one afternoon. "You might have to ask me a few questions" offered the somewhat reticent lan, who brought along a comprehensive scrap book of notes and photos. Once he warmed up, the information and anecdotes came tumbling out. Eventually we had to wind up, as the café was closing. A wonderful session from an amazing veteran. Members will want to know more. Just ask lan; he may open-up, but he's no self-promoter. Keep it up lan, we love your story and your presentation of man and machine.



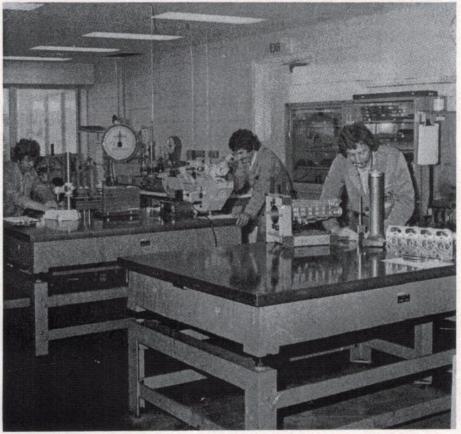
In the Dyno Room engines and gearboxes are put through their paces. The foreground has an engine undergoing a 3 hour break-in and performance test. Behind that is a motor going through an oil consumption test. In the back room, an engine is being put to a 200 hour durability test.

The work is all part of the daily tests undertaken as part of the Quality Control procedure.

After the tests, the engines are dismantled and inspected.



Ian Cameron, Quality Control and Dyno Room Foreman.

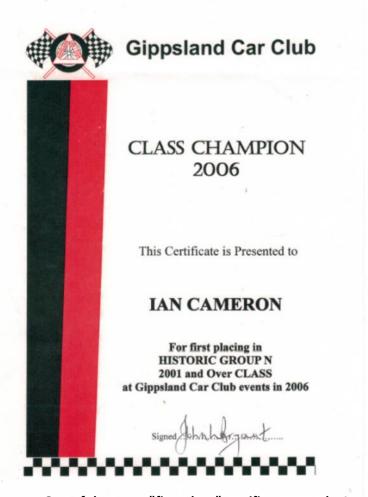


Castings Inspection Room where all alloy and iron castings are inspected and Material Analysis checked.





lan as a 19yo washing a little petrol spill of a customer's car



One of the many "first place" certificates won by Ian

## The Shitbox Commodore.....

My ex-partner and mother of Robert and Gayle V, Ruth Ronan called me up and requested help to buy an old car to compete in a charity rally. Later I was advised that this machine needed to be twenty-five years plus, and the rally was to commence at Airlie Beach Queensland in August next year. (Her partner-in-crime lives in Queensland).

I put the word out via our club newsletter, and soon Prez Colin discovered a suitable Falcon sedan in Bendigo, only \$600. You had to be quick, as when Ruth followed up, it was gone. Next, Rob Bradley introduced a neat low-mileage Korean sedan for \$1600. This was inevitably too young to comply with rally rules.



Then another call from the ex; she had noticed for sale in Ashwood a 1997 VS Commodore wagon which had just completed a Shitbox Rally, Port Douglas to Adelaide. The wagon was advertised for "shitbox or camping". Vendor Dave Fitzgerald may have been getting flak from the missus to get rid of it, as their 4-car garage was already full.

After a cursory inspection and a drive around the block, we negotiated it down a little to \$1350. It had 334,000 odd km on the clock, but later I noticed that the odometer had crashed. How many K's had it really done? It drove quite well; plenty of grunt and the transmission changed nicely. The exhaust was clean, with no oil dripping onto the concrete. A good pack rack and pull-out awning were mounted on the roof, and a nice LED light bar hung on the front bumper. The body finish is something else: Triangles of fluoro stick-on vinyl and huge rally stickers each side complete the all-'round picture.

Drove it home to Point Cook OK, so now to get it roadworthy. The radio aerial was dangling, so off with the inner guard, at which time I noticed that the concertina boots on the front struts were knackered. Rally rules demanded a mounted spare plus another tyre, so off to Rinnys Commodore Wreckers in Dunlop Road Hoppers to get a couple of tyres, plus new strut boots and a handbrake lever, all for \$170.

Dave wasn't quite honest regarding the handbrake lever, he said the transport guys had damaged it. The lever I bought was for a later model at \$30. How many do you want? was the cryptic question. Now the correct lever was "much harder to buy, as these earlier parts are prone to failure". So I traded it back for the correct item at \$90. change-over. Removing the old hand brake, I noticed that a pin had been ground off, and the button, spring and ratchet mechanism removed. Good on you Dave. There was also an issue regarding the security lock wheel nut adaptor, which could not be found. On the other side of the ledger was two new radiator hoses and a spare fan belt.

Next, neighbour Daryl to the rescue! Daryl is a retired mechanic with plenty of tools. We removed the struts, after Daryl warned me that the big rubber caps and thrust bearings could also be suss. So off to Rinnys to buy these bits at what exorbitant cost?

Rinnys was closed that day, so a quick look on eBay showed the full kit at only \$29.44 including delivery. This came from a Melbourne supplier in just three days, so back to Daryl and the tools. He has spring compressors, and an air-powered rattle gun, for speedy removal of the super-tight bolts.

Meanwhile I was attending to some minor improvements. The gearstick console was rattling around and the driver's door card had been badly fitted, the plastic buttons missing. The underside of the wagon was coated with oil, but no obvious leaks were discovered. Dave advised that the oil pressure sender unit had "shit itself", which explained the oil. (A shiny new sender sits on the front of the V6 donkey). So out with a spray bottle of degreaser and the Karcher.

Now she was looking better, maybe a RWC could be secured? Then I remembered to test the windscreen washers. The front ones went off like Niagara Falls, but the rear one was in full drought. This last trick was a full-on fight, with no access to the little jet above the window. Eventually the fault was traced to a blockage here, so when all else fails, brute force to get the part off. Then a large obstruction was cleared, and we pulled the hose back through with a coat hanger wire and re -inserted the jet.

Jason the good head-lining man is booked for next Tuesday, with a first inspection for RWC the day prior. Cross your fingers! I can thoroughly recommend Rinnys. They speak nicely, have the bits in well organized shelving, and help and advise as needed, all for a practical price. (The correct hand brake lever is \$175 on eBay).

Ruth is looking for sponsors and has already cashed in some cans for \$22. A long way to go before August 2024! From John Marks, 02/12.



# WDCVC REGALIA 2023



Club Polo \$30



Club Vest \$45



**Summer Shirt \$50** 



Club Cap \$12



Winter Jacket \$55



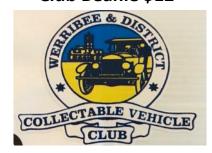
Club Beanie \$12



Metal Grille Badge \$40



**Small Hat Badge \$5** 



**Vehicle Window Decal \$1** 



# WERRIBEE & DISTRICT COLLECTABLE VEHICLE CLUB INC



Windscreen Banner with Club Logo: 1800mm Long, 100mm Wide. \$13 or two for \$25 Club name badges are just \$10 and you are asked to wear them to all club events.

Payment is required in full for regalia items needing to be ordered before order will be placed with our supplier.

Len Mallia is at General Meetings to assist you. You can also call Len direct to order regalia on 0412 529 801 or email at lencar6@bigpond.com.au

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The Werribee and District Collectable Vehicle Club monthly newsletter?

Please speak to Colin



Member Discount is available when you use our sponsors Please remember to show your membership card to redeem discounts



# Donna Chenoweth

Senior Store Manager Repco Hoppers Crossing & Altona

174 -182 Old Geelong Road

Hoppers Crossing VIC 3029

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Mob: 0411 431 643

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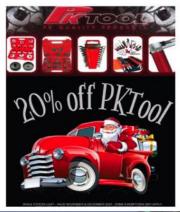


















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