

# PAST TIMES



April 2025



**1972 Holden Kingswood Wagon - Owner Ron Bracken**

## From the President's desk

Presidents April report from his toolbox,

Why is the April magazine so early? Good question, I thought it would be a good idea to remind members of our swap meet on the 6th of April at the Swan Athletics Club. A few members have registered their attendance with Rhonda, but ideally we would like more members to lighten the load on our regular contributors. Most of the work takes place from 6am with parking, Marque erections and gate management. Set up doesn't take long and then you may have Sunday off or have an early drink at the bar which opens at 7:30 am. No need to register simply turn up (free entry to members).

The Committee of Management would like to thank Graeme Barton, for stepping into the Vice Presidents roll as care taker, until the AGM

My favourite of the month recipient for March was Diane McCracken, for her extraordinary efforts in the kitchen management and raffle. Coordinating very much appreciated by many stomachs.

VAA Acting President

*Domenic Paoliello*

### VAA Swap Meet

6th of April is next weekend. Please consider helping your club on our only fund raising event of the year. Come along join the fun and get to know other members. No experience needed.

We will not be running a kitchen this year, so volunteers will be able to rotate and enjoy some free time browsing for treasure at the sellers stalls

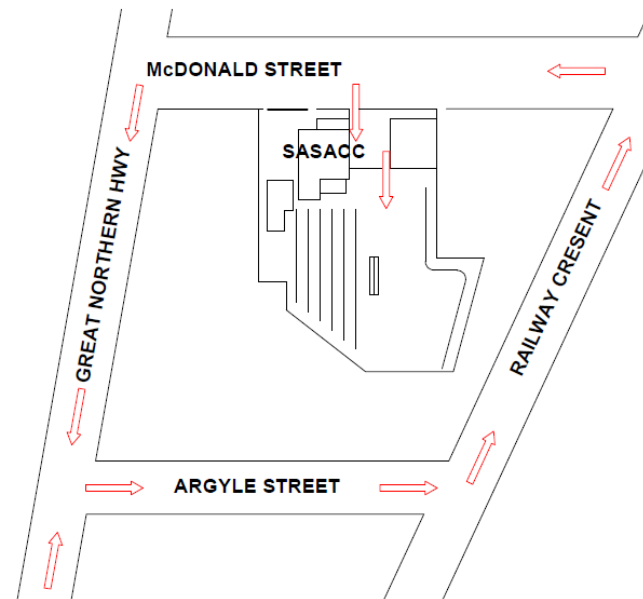
Even if you can only attend for a hour, please register your time preference and the activate you are most comfortable joining.

Many hands make it a fun day for members and a successful day for your club.

Contact: **Ray on 0416 018 119**

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# VAA SWAP MEET

**SUNDAY 6 APRIL 2025**

**0700 AM - 1200 NOON**

## SWAN ATHLETIC SPORTING AND COMMUNITY CLUB

**McDONALD STREET, HERNE HILL**

**SELLERS (NO FOOD VENDORS) FROM 0600 AM**

**\$20.00 PER VEHICLE (INC. DRIVER).**

**BUYERS FROM 0700 AM. \$5.00 PER PERSON. KIDS FREE**

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE, HOT AND COLD DRINKS AVAILABLE**

**ENQUIRES, CONTACT RAY 0416 018 119**

**OR DOMENIC 0407 446 682**

**CARS BIKES TRUCK PARTS**

**VINTAGE COLLECTABLES**

**VINTAGE CAR DISPLAYS**

**ARTS, CRAFTS AND FLORA**

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## 1951 Ford Custom

In 2011 I got a lift to Mandurah, to meet Ron West and have a look at a vehicle he had up for sale. He showed me a 1951 Ford Custom, 4 door with a Side Valve 239 V8 Twin Spinner. I was very impressed, we negotiated a deal, and I drove her home.

Once I had her home, I went over the old girl thoroughly, to work out a restoration plan. Finding blemishers, I didn't notice in the excitement of negotiation, specifically she wasn't road worthy. I had driven her from Mandurah with broken engine mounts.

### Ford Custom Restoration Journey.

I found when I took the head off, every cylinder had broken rings.

So the 1st job was to rebuild the motor

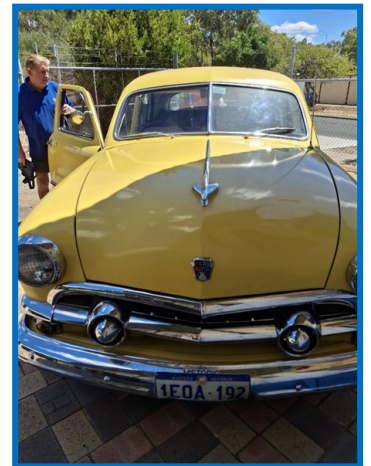
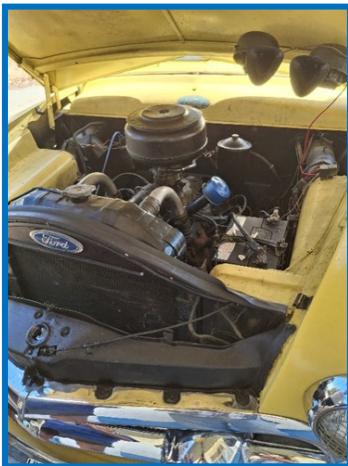
Some panels needed a little straightening, then she was painted.

All the chrome work was restored and re-chromed.

The entire interior was re-upholstered.

I hand painted the wood grain on the Dash and Door trims.

To complete her presentation I purchased new White Wall Tyres.



The car was registered, so I was driving it and doing projects as I had time. It took me about 18 months to restore her.

*Brian (Bluey) Pilton*



Photographer - *Brian Tucker*



## The Movie Star Who Invented The “Auto Signalling Arm”.

Silent Film Actress Florence Lawrence, born Florence Annie Bridgwood in Hamilton, Ontario Canada January 2, 1886. Died in Beverly Hills, 28th of December 1938 at the age of 52, .

Arguably the first movie star, Florence was a star of stage and screen. In 1907 she won her first movie roll in “Daniel Boone” and went on to make more than 250 films during her career.

Florence became a very successful actress and was able to buy her own car. Owning a car was a very rare occurrence for a woman and the general population, as cars were considered a luxury.

Florence loved her car and driving. She loved learning all she could about the mechanics and how the motor vehicle functioned.

It was independence, passion and technical interest that steered Lawrence into the world of automotive technology. In 1914 Lawrence developed an early version of the vehicle turn signal and in 1915 announced the debut of her “Auto-Signalling Arm”

Florence developed a mechanical signalling arm. With the press of a button a flag raised or lowered on the car’s rear bumper, alerting other drivers which way the car was going to turn. She also developed a brake arm which was designed to work automatically, when the pedal was pushed a STOP sign flipped up from the rear bumper. At the time, these were unique and groundbreaking. Turn signals, brake lights and windscreen wipers were not part of any motor vehicle’s offering.

*“A car to me is something that is almost human, something that responds to kindness and understanding and care, just as people do,”* Lawrence told a reporter in 1920, when driving had become a symbol of women’s liberation. *“The average woman does her own repairing. She is curious enough to investigate every little creak and squeak of her car, and to remedy it.”*

Lawrence never filed patents for either the signalling arm or brake Stop sign, so recognition of her imaginative and problem-solving were never fully recognised.



Florence Lawrence

Despite these early advancements, it would take some time for turn signals to be adopted. Motorists continued to signal their intention by hand.

Three years later in 1918 the Boston-based Naillik Motor Signal Company, stole Lawrence's invention then installed electric motors, marketing as trafficators. By 1927, French and German inventors built trafficators that combined a solenoid and electric lighting. The trafficator was still in use 1947 on British cars and early Volkswagen Beetles. American Model A Fords didn’t get trafficators, but they were standard on the company’s cars built in Germany. Manufacturers were still sceptical that cars needed signal devices.

In 1925, Edgar A. Waltz, Jr. got a patent on a modern turn signal but couldn’t get anyone interested in putting it on cars. The patent expired without any success.

Oscar J. Simler designed and patented a device in 1929 which signalled turns, it would also signal for slowing when the brake was pressed and stop when the brake and clutch were both pressed. There were two arrows for left or right, and a “Stop” section that glowed with the brake pedal. Turn signals and brake lights in the same cluster, an “interlocking and tripping switch for automobile signals,” some of which were automatic.



In the late 1930s, Joseph Bell patented the first blinking light device. In 1938 Buick boasted the “Flash-Way Directional Signal,” the first flashing light turning signal. Vehicle manufactures were still slow to adopt the turning signal, as a result turning signals did not become common until the early 1950s.

*Cheryl Gleu*

## Swap Meet Volunteers

Volunteers please report to the Rare Spares Raffle tent. See Rhonda Barton who will issue safety vest, a food voucher to the value of \$7.00 and direct you to your team leader.

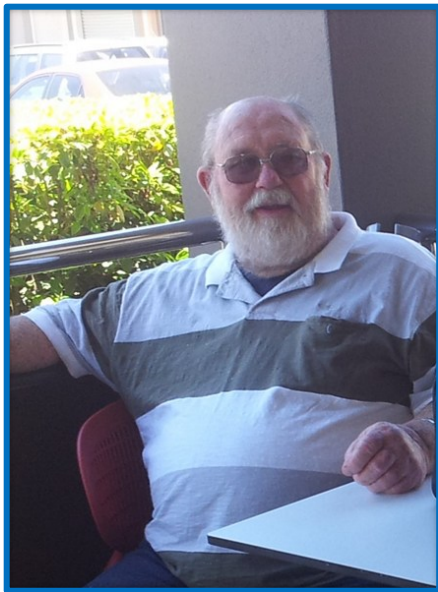
A reminder to bring your Vintage or Classic Car, Truck or Bike to put on display for People's Choice.

Keep spreading the flyers on your local Facebook pages and other sites.

*Ray Smith* 0416 018 119

### VAA Swap Meet

#### Ron Perry Memorial Trophy



Only open to VAA Club Members



Owner Restored Vehicle, Judge's Choice

Presentation at 8th April Club night

### Display Vehicles

For safety reasons all display vehicles must be in place by 7.30 am. There will be no vehicle movement until 11.am.

Parking officials will be available from 6.am

### VAA Swap Meet

Display Vehicle People's Choice

Open to club and non club members



2nd \$30 fuel voucher

Presentation at 8th April Club night

## Favourite of the Month



**D**omenic presented Dianne McCracken with a box of Favourites.

Thank you Dianne for everything you do for members and our club. Dianne is involved with Events, Raffles, shopping and cooking.

## VAA Events

### VAA Biggest Morning Tea and Vehicle Inspection day

Sunday 26th May

Car inspection - 8:30 am

Morning Tea - 10:00 am

For a cash donation, come and enjoy morning tea and a chat with friends. Join in the raffles and have some fun on the Chocolate wheel to raise funds for a worthy cause

All money raised will go to the Cancer Council

Please contact Dianne on 0411 789 915 if you can help with cakes sandwiches or slices. Your donations of food will be greatly appreciated.

### Cars Coffee and Cake Mid-Week Run

Every Third Thursday of each month

VAA members meet at the Coffee Hut

4/777A Great Northern Highway Herne Hill

This month's Coffee and Cake meet

Thursday April 17th, 10am



### VAA Quiz Night Saturday 10th May

7pm - 9pm

VAA Club Rooms

\$10 per table of 8

1st, 2nd and Spot prizes

BYO snacks and drinks.

To book your table or seat before **3rd May** contact:

Jack 0412874031, Dianne 0411789915

Rhonda Barton 0409 880 378

## Notices

### Attention Members.

Change of Postage Address

VAA Post Office box has now been closed.

Please address all mail to

19 Helen St, Bellevue 6056

### Wanted Batteries

**I** know that some of you will have had to replace your battery, how about dropping off your old one to the club?

**Mark McKenzie**

### Wanted Magazine Articles

**P**lease consider forwarding articles to your magazine. I am sure club members would love to read your ideas, stories, history, successes, and failures. Articles can be attached as a word document or in the body of an email, I will even write an article for you. Don't forget we love photos. Make sure articles reach me by the end of each month.

A big thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the magazine. Response has been encouraging.

*Cheryl*

editor@vaawa.org.au

## Vintage Automobile Membership Report — Meeting 11 March 2025

I have one application for your consideration and approval this month: Chris and Eileen OVERTON nominated by Shane PITT. They have a 1968 Ford Fairlane and a 1989 Landcruiser Station Wagon

Club membership and vehicles as at 11/3/25:

Membership Type	Member	Spouse	Partner	Total
Life Members	11	7	1	19
Single Members	123	-	-	112
Double Full Members	185	153	32	368
Associate Members	1	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>501</b>
Joined since 1/7/2015	26	14	2	42

Vehicle Category	Full	Code 404	C4C	Unlic.	?	Total
Veteran (up to and including 31 Dec 1918)					1	1
Vintage (1 Jan 1919 to 31 Dec 1930)	4	22	-	4	12	42
Post Vintage (1 Jan 1931 31 Dec 1949)	3	55	2	5	12	77
Invitation (1950 to no less than 25 years old)	86	644	46	42	32	672
?				1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>794</b>

### CMC General Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> February:

Use of CMC 'surplus funds'-

Training: Looking for a pool of 20-30 people close to retirement or retired. Purpose is to teach rust repair, panel work, trimming etc. to around 30 young people. Must be willing to join the VCCC as the scheme will use their facilities in Hale Road. No big out of pocket of expenses and likely to be held on Saturdays. If you are interested in doing either, you should come the next CMC general meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> April. I can give you details.

The Motor Museum has offered their shelter for use for CMC clubs free as the CMC has offered to pay as a benefit to member clubs.

The History of WA Motoring book was approved with Paul Blank as Editor. He is looking for interesting photos and articles. I suggest the VAA register interest and send Paul a copy of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book. So far, 20 club's responses, with 250 books ordered. The budget is for 1000 copies.

Registrar

*Dave Currell*



MINUTES OF THE VAAWA MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING  
19 HELEN STREET BELLEVUE  
11<sup>TH</sup> March 2025

- Meeting opened** 8.01pm
- Attendees** As per Attendance Book
- Opening** Domenic thanked all who attended
- Apologies** Brian Brookes, Dougie Edwards, Martin Paine, Brian Tucker, Graham Hough, Peter Goldsmith, Lester De Souza, Trevor Rudly, Rob Voysey, Steve Hollis, Ronny Dixon, Barry Ryle, Tony Warner, Michelle Miles, Sheryl Jurkov.
- Visitors** Kevin Jones
- New Members** Kevin Jones, who joined up straight away.
- Previous Minutes** Moved that they be true and accurate by Bill Redeckis and Seconded by Graeme Barton.

**Correspondence In and Out** NTR

**Treasurer's Report by Val Smith**

**Income**

Can Recycling 4/3/25 \$48.90  
Cans Recycling 18/3/25 \$54.00  
Raffle \$166.25

**Invoices to pay.**

Synergy	\$116.21	
MYOB	\$ 63.00	Monthly Fee for MYOB Accounting
Rob Hyde	\$ 66.00	Chocolates for Valentines Day
Dave Currell	\$106.59	Postage and Stamps for New Members
Cheryl Glew	\$ 40.00	Printing Brochures for Swapmeet
	\$74.39	Posting March Magazine
Subiaco Print	\$269.50	Printing March Magazine
Badgemate	\$ 63.80	Badges for New Members
Shirley Evertt	\$124.66	Bread, Sausages and Raffle Prizes
Rhonda Barton	\$181.50	Ink and Paper

Moved to pay invoices Bill Redeckis Seconded by Martin Steere

**Business Arising** Nil

**Events** Jack appraised us of all upcoming events which are in the magazine each month.

**Swap Meet** Ray updated us on the ongoing Swap Meet information and asked any volunteers to get in touch with Rhonda.

**Editors report** Cheryl apologized for the magazine being late. The printer was late so not everyone got their magazine in time for the meeting. Thanks to all who add articles. Please continue sending them.

**Vehicle Examiner** Nothing to report.

**Building Report** All good.

**Registrar** Dave asked for the ok for a new member, Chris and Eileen Overton. This was moved by Bill Redeckis and seconded by Steve Velden. All in favour.

There is a book being done by a gentleman on the History of Australian Motoring and he is interested in getting input. Rhonda is going to source our 50 year book and send it to him.

**CMC** NTR

**Library** NTR

**Workshop** Bills Car is the main objective of the men at the moment, and they have some help from outside the membership, so things are looking good in that respect.

**Merchandise** NTR

**General Business**

Rhonda made mention of the Disabled toilet being used as a storeroom. This is not acceptable as we have to cater for those who need that room.

Jack McCracken has donated a colour printer and although there is a bit of work needed it should be useful for printing up flyers etc.

**Swap Meet** Ray gave us an update on the Swap Meet. Everything was going well and there have been flyers passed out at many venues.

**Raffle Winners** Favorite of the Month was Dianne Mc Cracken for all her work in the kitchen.

Winners, Paul Fitzgerald, Pauline Velden, Kevin Sweeny, Mike Hill

**Display Car** 1958 Red Chev Corvette owned by Peter Sobozyk

**Meeting Closed** 9.09pm

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**Committee of Management Meetings**

Meetings 7:30pm at the clubrooms

Tuesday 27th May

Meetings are held every two months, unless a special meeting is called

CONTACT : Domenic Paoliello 0407 446 682

**Member Suggestion**

Unleaded fuel is not designed for our old vehicles

Always use a fuel additive in your vehicle, especially if you are taking a long run.

A little bit every time you fill up will save your engine.

*Brian (Bluey) Pilton*

**VAA 2024/25 OFFICE BEARERS  
AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

<b>Position</b> * Denotes Member of Committee of Management	<b>Member</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
<b>President *</b>	Vacant		
<b>Vice-President *</b>	Domenic Paoliello	XL67@bigpond.com	0407 446 682
<b>Secretary *</b>	Rhonda Barton	secretary@vaawa.org.au	0409 880 378
<b>Treasurer *</b>	Val Smith	treasurer@vaawa.org.au ray.val.smith@gmail.com	0409 882 888
<b>Registrar</b>	Dave Currell	registrar@vaawa.org.au	0419 998 589
<b>Events Coordinator *</b> <b>Assistant</b>	Jack McCracken Dianne McCracken	john.mccracken6@bigpond.com	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	Cheryl Glew	editor@vaawa.org.au	0432 239 349
<b>Scrutineer</b>	Ray Roberts	rayrobertshome@gmail.com	0438 911 387
<b>Assistant Scrutineer</b>	Brett Roberts	brett@hovea.com.au	0402 233 487
<b>Scrutineer South of River</b>	Graeme Barton	rogray.b@bigpond.com	0409 880 378
<b>Librarian</b>	Martin Paine	w2011@optusnet.com.au	08 9247 1729
<b>Publisher</b>	Cheryl Glew	editor@vaawa.org.au	0432 239 349
<b>Building Manager</b>	Graham Hough	grahamhough7@gmail.com	0408 905 226
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Jon Jon Ramirez	bigjonjon@gmail.com	0451 307 225
<b>Club Caretaker</b>	Mark McKenzie	maka7@live.com.au	0400 701 142
<b>Raffle Coordinator</b>	Domenic Paoliello	XL67@bigpond.com	0407 446 682
<b>Kitchen Manager</b>	Shirley Everett	shirleyeverett1948@gmail.com	0424 422 270
<b>Workshop Manager</b>	Bob de Jong	bobdejong1952@gmail.com	0400 064 937
<b>Webmaster</b>	Dave Currell	registrar@vaawa.org.au	0419 998 589
<b>CMC Delegate</b>	Frank Ferrari	frank@subiacoprint.com.au	0419 421 087
<b>Merchandising Officer</b>	Vacant		
<b>Committee Member 1 *</b>	Ray Smith	ray.val.smith@gmail.com	0416 018 119
<b>Committee Member 2 *</b>	Lance Glew	lanceglew2@gmail.com	0427 173 666
<b>Committee Member 3 *</b>	Graham Hough	grahamhough7@gmail.com	0408 905 226
<b>Committee Member 4 *</b>	Steve Hollis	sjhollis@hotmail.com	0424 548 958
<b>Committee Member 5 *</b>	Jon Jon Ramirez	bigjonjon@gmail.com	0451 307 225
<b>Committee Member 6 *</b>	Tom Polich	tompolich8@gmail.com	0401 803 675



## VAA EVENTS CALENDAR 2025 (April– July)

MTH	DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	ADDRESS	CONTACT	PHONE #
ALL		Wed & Sat	9:00 am to 12:00 pm	VAA WORKSHOP	Club Rooms	Bob de Jong	0400 064 937
Apr	6th	Sun	7:00 am to 12:00 N	VAA Annual Swap Meet	Swan Athletic Sports Club (Herne Hill)	Ray Smith	0416 018 119
Apr	8th	Tue	8:00 pm	VAA Club Meeting 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Rhonda Barton Secretary	0409 880 378
Apr	17th	Thur	10.00 am	Cars, Coffee & Cakes Mid-Week Run	The Coffee Hut Great Northern Highway	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
Apr	19th	Sat	9:30 pm	Events Committee Meeting	Club Rooms	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
May	10th	Sat	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	VAA Quiz Night BYO	Club Rooms	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
May	13th	Tue	8:00 pm	VAA Club Meeting 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Rhonda Barton Secretary	0409 880 378
May	15th	Thur	10.00 am	Cars, Coffee & Cakes Mid-Week Run	The Coffee Hut Great Northern Highway	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
May	17 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	9:30 pm	Events Committee Meeting	Club Rooms	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
May	30th	Fri	5:00 pm to 8:00 pm	VAA Sundowner	Club Rooms	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
Jun	10th	Tue	8:00 pm	VAA Club Meeting 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Rhonda Barton Secretary	0409 880 378
Jun	19th	Thur	10:00 am	Cars, Coffee & Cakes Mid-Week Run	The Coffee Hut Great Northern Highway	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
Jun	21 <sup>st</sup>	Sat	9:30 pm	Events Committee Meeting	Club Rooms	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
July	8th	Tue	8:00 pm	VAA AGM and Club Meeting 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Rhonda Barton Secretary	0409 880 378
July	17th	Thurs	10:am	Cars, Coffee & Cakes Mid-Week Run	The Coffee Hut Great Northern Highway	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915

### Non VAA Events

For events that may be of interest refer to our website ([www.vaawa.org.au/files/eventsOTHER.pdf](http://www.vaawa.org.au/files/eventsOTHER.pdf)) - VAA Members may drive their concessionally licensed vehicle to these events

Registrar  
*Dave Currell*