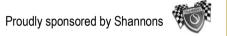
### PAST TIMES

50th ANNIVERSARY 1972 - 2022



**APRIL 2022** 





Steve Sokmas's VC Brock Commodore, in magnificent condition.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I cannot express enough my delight and surprise at the number of classic cars that we are seeing at events this year. We had a great showing at the drive-in movie night another 15 cars at the Curtin Classic car show today. With all the classic cars coming out for meetings can we please reserve the back yard for classics? A small reward for those willing to come out at night.

With the swap meet on in a week as I sit and write this, I am quietly confident that we will get a good turn out of sellers and buyers. We have a full roster of members willing to help on the day and to my mind that alone makes the swap meet a success. The swap met comes with bonus points for the numbered anniversary badge, another event in April also has bonus points attached and that is the Book launch and the 20th anniversary of the opening of the clubrooms on the 25th of April. Loris and her team are looking for volunteers to help on the day with things such as parking classic cars, helping with the provision of the afternoon tea so if you can make a cake, a sandwich or two please give Loris a call I am sure she will be delighted to hear from you, especially Jon Jon Ramirez with his famous chocolate brownies.

With some Covid restrictions being lifted we may be able to accommodate more members to our Gala Dinner in June. I expect that this event will sell out so please get in early book and pay for your ticket ASAP. This is going to be a great night out and one to not miss.

You will notice that the rear part of our main building has been insulated with polystyrene kindly donated by Rob Hyde in gratitude for us re-building his Mercedes engine. The installation was done mainly by Graham Hough, Domenic Paoliello and Ricki Hanson (with help from others) it has cooled the area a lot and raised light levels as well so thank you guys and a big thank you to Rob and Lorraine for the donation.

On a very serious note, our club renewals will be going out in April this year, a full month earlier than usual. There is a reason for this, the reason is that in the first week of July we are duty bound to send in our return to the Department of Transport on who our members are and who did not renew. Please understand we do NOT have a choice in this and believe me the DOT are going to become very strict. If you get caught being unfinancial you may be asked to pay the full registration price for the car(s) that are affected and during any period when you are deemed by the DOT to be unfinancial your vehicle(s) is not covered by 3rd party insurance so you should NOT be using it. During my five years as secretary and since we have made hundreds of phone calls to members to pay their dues. I simply do not understand why when you get your renewal from the DOT for your car registration you pay it! When you get your club renewal many of you ignore it! PLEASE make sure you take the time to renew on time.

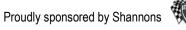
Until next month.

Kind Regards,

#### Tony Warner

President Vintage Automobile Association of WA Inc. 0417 555 073





#### The top 20 points score so far.

Surname	First name	
DE BRENNI	Troy	120
WARNER	Tony	115
EGAN	Terry	110
PAOLIELLO	Domenic	100
MCKENZIE	Mark	90
DUNN	Ron	90
TUCKER	Brian	85
DE JONG	Bob	80
EGAN	Peter	75
JONSSON	Gretar	75
HYDE	Robert	70
HILL	Michael	65
REDECKIS	Bill	60
SMITH	Ray	60
Dunn	Dot	60
RODWELL	Brian	55
FANETTI	Daniel	55
COOPER	LORIS	55
HOLLIS	Steven Jef-	55

# You are Invited to attend the VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION OF WA (INC.) 50th ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER & FASHION PARADE

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 At the GOSNELLS GOLF CLUB

95 Sandringham Promenade Canningvale, WA

Arrival Time for pre-dinner drinks: 6:00pm

Cost: Members & Spouse/Partner..... \$40:00 each

Non-Members ...... \$76:00 each

Price includes welcome drink and canapes on arrival, entrée, main meal, dessert and 2btls of wine on each table of 10 – all other drinks to be purchased by guest.

Dress code: Evening wear or smart casual

(Bookings & payments can be made now, so get in early to secure your seat as there are limited places). State Govt. Covid regulations at the time will apply

R.S.V.P: Closing date for bookings and payments is Friday 10th June 2022.

To secure your place, please email VAL SMITH: ray.val.smith@gmail.com
Or alternatively by phoning VAL on 0416 018 119

Payment to be made directly into VAA Account:

**BSB: 306 041** 

Acc. No: 00583650

(PLEASE include your name in the payment reference)
Alternatively, see Val Smith at our next meeting and pay by Credit Card.

#### **Drive-in night.**

Aaah the romance - well it was 60 odd years ago at our local drive in at Mount Gambier our home town in South Australia. Memories of cuddling up in the front seat of the old FJ Holden, large box speaker clipped over the front window- probably didn't hear much.

It was a rather large drive in and they had guys and gals with neck trays going from car to car taking you orders for popcorn, hotdogs and cans of creaming soda ( or was it bottles ).

You could pick this up at interval or sit at the tables provided at the canteen. Yes, there were two films run in those days.

Fast forward and a bit hard on the romance, no cuddling with bucket seats and a console down the centre!

But we all enjoyed a good get together. Did not do a count but there would have been over 12 - 14 club cars there and a lot of

blue club shirts.

Oh - and the film was quite good too.

Ron Dunn



## TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER & FASHION PARADE on SAT 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 at Gosnells Golf Club

GET IN QUICK AND SECURE YOUR SEAT
ONLY 110 TICKETS AT THIS STAGE CAN BE OFFERED DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS ON VENUE
(For bookings see article in this magazine)

#### 1937 CHEVROLET MASTER black

A popular 2 door passenger vehicle in 1937 when 110,849 were sold. The Master name was used on a number of different versions and the series name changed each year. Whilst external difference was limited to trim and equipment, the Master retained a beam front axle and leaf springs.

The outdoor performance venue, the Sydney Myer Music Bowl is officially opened by Premier Robert Menzies.

Billy Graham begins his tour of Australia.

Qantas launched its first jet service from Sydney to San Francisco via Nadi and Honolulu.

The Australian population more than doubled from 21 million in 2008.

Number one song "Volare (NEI blu dip into di blu)", singer Domencico Modeigano.

For the first time in history, more passengers crossed the Atlantic in airplanes than in ships.

Golf Masters won by Arnold Palmer, his first win.

Cynthia





#### A group of seniors were sitting around at the Coffee Club talking about all their ailments.

"My arms have got so weak I can hardly lift this cup of coffee," said one.

"Yes, I know," said another." My cataracts are so bad, I can't even see my coffee.."

"I couldn't even mark an "X" at election time because my hands are so crippled," volunteered a third.

"What? Speak up! What? I can't hear you, said one elderly lady.

I can't turn my head because of the arthritis in my neck,"

"My blood pressure pills make me so dizzy!" exclaimed another.

"I forget where I am, and where I'm going," said another.

"I guess that's the price we pay for getting old," winced an old man as he slowly shook his head.

The others nodded in agreement.

"Well, count your blessings," said a woman cheerfully....

"Thank God we can all still drive."

#### MINUTES FOR THE V.A.A.of W.A. Monthly General Meeting

Meeting at Clubrooms 19 Helen Street, Bellevue. 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Open Meet- ing	Meeting opened at 8.03pm. Tony Warner reminded members of Covid19 requirements, QR check-in,wear a mask at all times, isolate if not feeling well.
Members Present	As per meeting book – A limit of 45 people due to Covid19 restrictions.
Apologies	Dave Currell, Brian Brookes, Michael Hill, Alan Linda, Joseph Brajkovich, Peter Goldsmith, Lester D'Souza, Ron & Jenny Perry.
Visitors	Four Visitors present 1/ Bruno Remigio, owns a Jaguar 1973 XJ6 a Mini Moke 1977, a Ford XT Falcon and Holden HD in bits. 2/ Kevin, owns 3 x Ford XW Fairmont's. 3/ Paul, owns a ZH Fairlane 351 with FMX automatic, is under restoration. 4/ Justin Pinkard owns an XB Falcon 351. No new members present.
Previous minutes	Bill Redeckis moved a motion that the previous minutes be accepted as a true and correct record, seconded by Ron Dunn, passed by vote. The motion was carried.
Business arising	No business arising from the minutes.
Corre- spondence	1x Email from Ted & Dawn Vaughan from Ballidu regarding a logbook for their 1947 Chev Fleetmaster.  1 x email from Justin Pinkard regarding a membership application.
	1 x email from Austin Motor vehicle Club regarding event in September Multiple emails from Kymberly Dunn at the Galaxy Drive with Movie information. 1 x Aust Post Renewal notice
	1 x Aust Post Nerlewal Holice  1 x Anthony Marchesani member application  1 x Bankwest Statement  1 x AVVVA Newsletter
Treasurer's Report	Val Smith reported:  Bank Balance at 08.03.22 = \$26,182.55  *Money in:
	\$120 from Bruno Remigio \$140 from Anthony Marchesani
	*Outgoing Payments: Subiaco print - \$313.50 Tony Warner - \$523.87 – for Toner, Magazine postage, flowers for Debbie, Riley expenses.
	Bob DeJong - \$54 – Riley expenses Alan Warner - \$1,243.80 – Riley expenses, Bumper overriders from the UK.
	Shirley Everett - \$48.52 – Sausage sizzle Shirley Everett - \$74.85 – Raffle prizes
	*Mark McKenzie has been taking bottles and cans to recycling and so far this financial year we have earned \$1,089.70, Thanks Mark for taking them in, well worth it!
	Tony Warner spoke about progress on the Riley. We aim is to take the Riley for a test drive on Wednesday. A reconditioned steering wheel is due soon, so we are close to having the Riley ready for sale.
	The Solar Panels from the Government Grant have now been installed on the Club Room Roof. We are expecting an invoice soon to finalise the contract with the supplier.
Events	Tony asked the meeting if there were any queries regarding the accounts. No queries were noted.  Loris Cooper reported:
	* On Feb 26 <sup>th</sup> was the "Fundraiser for Abby". In total \$13,000 was raised with \$530 donated by VAA members. Thank you to the 11 Club Members who travelled to Waroona to attend.
	*On March 19 <sup>th</sup> we have a Drive-in Movie night at the Galaxy Drive-In, Kingsley. The feature movie is called "DOG" staring Channing Tatum and of course the star Dog. \$11 for adults Proof of Vaccination is required. A show of hands indicates around 15 Cars may attend.
	* Also on Sat19th is the Funeral for Scott Barton. For those who wish to pay their respects the funeral is at 2PM at Bowra & O'Dea, Pinjarra Rd. Our condolences to Graeme & Rhonda.
	* Loris noted that the Events Planning Committee meeting on Sat19th will be postponed. Date TBA.
	*April is a busy month, on Sun April 3 <sup>rd</sup> is the Curtin Radio Spectacular Car Show. Meeting at 7.30am leave at 8.30am, we need to be set up by 9.30am. A show of hands indicated around 10 members would be attending.
Cont'd	*On 10 <sup>th</sup> April is our Swap Meet, on Saturday the 9 <sup>th</sup> is our preparation day.  *On Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> April is the 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of our Club Rooms. An afternoon starting at the Midland Markets, driving in convoy back to the Club rooms for afternoon tea. We are looking for as many old cars to come along as possible to help celebrate. Loris mentioned that an Official opening of the workshop is proposed. The 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary History book is currently being printed and will be available for sale on the day at \$35. Book orders will need to be placed soon as there is a limited number available.
next page	* The Gala Dinner is on the 25 <sup>th</sup> June. Tickets will be on offer next week, with only 110 tickets available, please get in quickly. Cost is \$40 for members, \$76 for non-members.

Cont'd

#### From The Workshop

#### **RILEY**

You must all be getting tired of my ongoing comments regarding the Riley but we are so very, very close to having the car finished. We are still waiting for the refurbished steering wheel but will hopefully see it back this week then we can finally take the car over the pits. There are still one or two tidy up jobs to do but certainly nothing major thankfully. Tony and Bob organised a trial drive a week or so ago and all went well, they did discover a small oil leak which has been fixed other than that they were both very happy. A potential buyer also had a drive and seemed happy with the cars performance all though the gentleman concerned has withdrawn his interest. There is another interested party from outside the club who is showing interest and we will confirm his thoughts this week. If this comes to nothing we will wait until after the next club meeting and if there is no further interest from within our ranks we will advertise it on the open market, so if you feel you could be interested let Tony or myself know and we can organise a test drive for you. We did take the Riley to the Curtin car show and a lot of interest was shown, whether that develops into something remains to be seen.

#### **WEEKEND TRIPS**

I did say in the last Newsletter I would have some information on accommodation for the Bunbury and Hyden weekenders but have to admit to still be working on this at present. Next Newsletter without fail I promise. On the Hyden front there appears to be only three options, the Hotel/Motel, the Caravan Park and the Resort which is also run by the Caravan Park. We recently stayed at the Resort and found it to be good although the lounge furniture was a bit tired. We had a two bedroom unit which could sleep 6, there was a queen size bed and a single in one room and three singles in the other. A decent size lounge area and a fully equipped kitchen and a small covered in BBQ area outside. There is also the benefit of a large saltwater pool that is apparently saltier than the dead sea, quite a strange experience in the water, come down and try it out.

#### THE CLUB WORKSHOP

I am one of the intrepid gang that attends the workshop on Wednesdays and Saturdays and would like to say how much I personally enjoy the experience. I am lucky enough to have some skills and experience to be able to help with some of the projects that come our way as are many of the others that come along and play. My point being with this is that part of what we do is to help others broaden their knowledge and skill set while effecting repairs and improvement to the vehicles that come our way. In this area I think we may have failed slightly and I would like to see others try things that they haven't done before. I am happy to assist people with body repairs, especially the painting side of things, we can also as we have in the past get outside help with welding tuition and I know that Tony is very keen to encourage and help people with mechanical repairs as i am sure Bob would be as well. While relieving myself of the boredom at Curtin today I was reflecting on some of the major projects we have been involved in, the Riley of course being one but also Marks Frog Eye Sprite and Brian's FJ, all three being complete restorations along with several engine rebuilds and various other smaller jobs. There is plenty of scope to help others learn as we progress with these projects, for example on Wednesday coming we will be preparing and priming the bonnet for the Camry, as far as painting goes this is quite easy with a bit of assistance and there is the opportunity for at least two people to have a go. By the time you read this it will be too late for this particular job but you will get my drift. Anyway its over to you all you need to do is to put your hand up and join in the fun.

Have a Covid free life.

Alan Warner
0407886141

The rear part of our main building has been insulated with polystyrene kindly donated by Rob Hyde in gratitude for us re-building his Mercedes engine. The installation was done mainly by Graham Hough, Domenic Paoliello and Ricki Hanson (with help from others) it has cooled the area a lot and raised light levels as well so thank you guys and a big thank you to Rob and Lorraine for the donation.



#### NON VAA EVENTS CALENDAR 2022

**50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR** 

March	3 <sup>rd</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> 31st	Thurs	8:30am	Kalamunda Chrome Bumper Group. Meet every Thurs	Gracies Café on Berkshire Road, For- restfield	www.tsoa-wa.com  Lyle Metcalf	0417 993 631
March	7 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	?	Chargers on the Grid – Celebrat- ing 50 years since the Charger raced at the Wan- neroo Raceway	Wanneroo Raceway, Wattle Ave East, Neerabup	For more info & registra- tion contact: Mike – email: mikefantasiachargerclub- wa@gmail.com	
April	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sun	8:30am- 11:00a m	Classic Cars & Coffee	UWA Car Park 3 Hack- ett Drv, Ned- lands		
April	3rd	Sun	Meet at Club at 7:00am have to be set up by 9:30am	Curtin Radio Classic Spectac- ular. The VAA tradio- nally attend this Annual event	Trinity College Playing Fields, 6 Elderfield Road, Waterford Leave In convoy, leave from Club Rooms	Tony Warner	
April	7 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> 28th	Thurs	8:30am	Kalamunda Chrome Bumper Group. Meet every Thurs	Gracies Café on Berkshire Road, For- restfield	www.tsoa-wa.com  Lyle Metcalf	0417 993 631
April	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sat & Sun		The Northam Mo- torsport Festival 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Northam		
April	10 <sup>th</sup>	Sat		The Williams Gateway Expo	Williams	Clay Haddrik Haddrik 95@hotmail.com	048825291 1
	TBA		TBA	Lights on the Hill	Talbot's Farm, Hep- pingstone Rd, Bruns- wick Junc- tion	John Tilling Bob Lukins Robert Cook lightsonthe hill- wa@gmail.com	0457 559 199 0428 960 594 0428 637 207
May	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	TBA	Shannon's/Perth Classic Car Show. The VAA tradionally attend this Annual event	Ascot Race- course	TBA	
May	15 <sup>TH</sup>	Sun	TBA	All British Car Day Gingin. The VAA tradionally attend this Annual event	Leave In convoy, from Club Rooms	TBA	

#### V.A.A. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo POLO SHIRTS (Men's & Ladies) and Men's Dress Shirts

Another order has been placed for V.A.A. Polo Shirts.

When the order arrives, we will have all Men's & Ladies sizes for Polos in stock.

If you have already got an order in, your shirt will be held for you.

If you would like a Polo Shirt, please let me know at the next meeting so I can hold it for you.

We still have in stock some Men's Dress Shirts (long sleeved).

We have a small order in for: two (L), two (XL) and one (3XL)

Sizes still in stock and available: one size (M), 1 size (L), four (2XL), and one (3XL).

PLEASE PUT YOUR ORDER IN - PAYMENT UPON COLLECTION Men's Polo's - \$47 Ladies Polo's - \$45.10 Men's Dress Shirts - \$58

10275

#### **Membership**

It is really encouraging and great to welcome six new members during March:

Steven and Helen DAWE with their 1986 Daihatsu Ute;

Graeme and Bettie PERRY and their 1962 Holden EH Ute;

Gina and Frank Bafile with their 1970 Dodge Challenger;

Justin PINKARD with his 1970 XB Ford;

Bruno and Kerri REMIGIO.

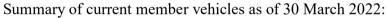
They have a 1977 Mini Moke and a 1977 Jaguar XJ6; and

Anthony MARCHESANI and Terezia CUKROV

who have a 1967 VC Chrysler.

#### Outline of club membership as of 30 March 2022:

Membership Type	Member	Spous	Partner	Total
Life Members	9	6	1	16
Single Full Members	103	-	-	103
Double Full Members	163	142	21	326
Associate Members	1	-	-	1
Total	276	148	22	446
Joined since 1/7/2021	26	16	2	44



Vehicle Category	Full	Conc.	Unlic.	?	Total
Veteran		2	-	2	4
Vintage	3	23	4	13	43
Post Vintage	7	52	2	12	72
Invitation	82	389	29	28	529
?	-	-	1	1	2
Total	92	466	36	56	650

#### **Swap Meet 2022 - A New Location**

We're looking forward to holding this years' swap meet at the Swan Italian Sporting Club in Middle Swan, where we had our Christmas dinner, and have been given a last minute reprieve with some of the Covid restrictions. Most notable is the fact that we will not need to screen people for Covid vaccinations so everyone is welcome. That being said volunteers will need to be wearing face masks if they are dealing with the public. It is strongly recommended that everyone wear a face mask anyhow. The virus is still spreading quickly.

I am overwhelmed by the number of volunteers' names on the list but also by the many members who have put in long hours in the planning and preparation stages. The behind the scenes work is often not seen but we couldn't run such an event without this help. Thank you everyone.

Hoping for a fun day with lots of sellers and buyers and of course volunteers. If your name isn't on the volunteers list you might not be awarded bonus points for the golden car badge. Please contact Tony to be included. Also be seen with your club shirt, hat and badge. Bring your old car, truck or bike and put it on display and go in the judging for the people's choice award. Our swap meet has become a major motoring event and we are being well supported by other car clubs and the general public. You can assist by finding us on the many sites on Facebook and liking the page to spread the word.

We also wish to thank our sponsor Rare Spares for the raffle donation and goodie bags.

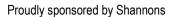
See you there on the day; hoping for great weather.



**Dave** Registrar



#### VAA Office Bearers 2022





#### \* Denotes committee of management

POSITION	MEMBER	PHONE #	
President	Tony Warner	0417 555 073	*
Vice President	Domenic Paoliello	0407 446 682	*
Secretary	Martin Steere	0407 993 933	*
Registrar	Dave Currell	0419 998 589	
Treasurer	Val Smith	0416 018 119	*
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant		
Events Coordinator	Loris Cooper	0402 032 270	*
Swap Meet Coordinator	Ray Smith	0416 018 119	
Committee Member	Ray Smith	0416 018 119	*
Committee Member	Peter Egan	0418 904 851	*
Committee Member	Brian Tucker	0428 803 606	*
Committee Member	Kevin Lockyer	0407 355 245	*
Committee Member	Graham Hough	0408 905 226	*
Committee Member	Tom Polich	0401 803 675	*
Scrutineer	Ray Roberts	0438 911 387	
Assistant Scrutineer	Brett Roberts	0402 233 487	
Building Manager	Graham Hough	0408 905 226	
Club Caretaker	Mark McKenzie	0400 701 142	
Librarian	Martin Paine	9247 1729	
Club Historian	Ron Perry	9295 3420	
Webmaster	Dave Currell	0419 998 589	
Workshop Manager	Bob DeJong	0400 064 937	
Magazine Editor	Frank Ferrari	0419 421 087	
Dating Officer	Trevor Harrison	9398 1272	
Kitchen Manager	Shirley Everett	0424 422 270	
CMC Delegate	Frank Ferrari	0419 421 087	
Raffle Coordinator	Domenic Paoliello	0407 446 682	
Raffle Assistants	Elijah, Isabella, Jackson		

#### **COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

<u> 2022</u>

Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm at the Club Rooms at 7:30pm at the Club Rooms

Hi all, I have created a group through Facebook called "Old cars and Things". It has posts of old cars, interesting things about old cars and historical events including people of the past.. This is a public group so you can have a look, join or post something you might have of interest.

Enjoy',

Debbie Paine

#### <u> Phillip Island Classic Festival of Motorsport – 11-13 March 2022</u>

The Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit is undoubtedly one of the most picturesque and dramatic racetracks in Australia. Owned by transport magnate Lindsay Fox, it is best known for hosting the Australian round of the MotoGP and Superbike world championships. The circuit has a long history going back close to 100 years and is also home to the annual Classic Motorsport Festival. The 3-day event attracts nearly 500 classic and historic racing cars from around Australia and in pre-COVID times, the world.

I attended this event for the first time in 2020 and thoroughly enjoyed it. Come 2022, I was delighted when my friend, Charlie Mitchell invited me to "pit-crew" for him at the event, where he was running his 1949 'TS Special'. I was a little reluctant when faced with 14 days hotel quarantine on return but happy when restrictions became 7 days at home and then none, but more on that later.

Charlie is a stalwart of the Austin Healey Club of WA. He is particularly well-regarded for his enthusiastic organising of and participation in national rallies around both Australia and the world. Along with his wife Linda, they have driven far and wide in their beloved Austin Healey 3000. Charlie's motor racing exploits are less well known, but he is a legend in historic racing circles. He has campaigned his car extensively in historic events in WA for over 20 years but not in recent times, as the car now resides in Melbourne. Charlie has successfully raced at the Phillip Island Classic for the last 22 years straight, along with attending at Sandown and Winton. He has played an active senior role in CAMS (now MSA), administering motor racing.

The 'TS Special' beast was commissioned in 1948 by the then well-known West Australian motorsport identity and dentist - Sid Taylor. It was built by the Style brothers and completed in 1949. The name 'TS Special' incorporates the first character of both surnames. 'T' for Taylor and 'S' for Style.

The car raced in the 1951, 1957 and 1962 Australian Grand Prix's against names such as Sir Jack Brabham and Bruce McLaren. 1962 also saw the last of the front engine race cars compete in the Australian Grand Prix.

The original engine was a Dodge side-valve, but it was later removed to make way for a GMC truck engine. Fitted in 1954, it remains in the car to this day. It is mated to a 1942 Chevy Truck gearbox with close ratio gearing, engineered by legendary Victorian John Needham.

Charlie bought the car in 1989 and completed a full rebuild. Its first major outing was in a demonstration run at the 1993 Australian Grand Prix in Adelaide.

Charlie raced this car at the 2010 Bruce McLaren Memorial meeting which was held over two weekends at Pukekohe and Hampton Down raceways in New Zealand. He took out top spot and was presented the trophy by none other than Bruce McLaren's sister, Jan McLaren.

Charlie has continued to refine and improve the car with a great deal of thought, rigour and skill, but still in the spirit of its original build and the strict rules of historic racing. I am sure it is now faster and certainly much more reliable than in its hey-day.

With all these refinements, my job entailed little more than refuelling, polishing, a little moral support and proudly spruiking information about this special and unique Western Australian car to whoever would listen.

Charlie had decided to also compete in the Geelong Sprints, held the weekend before Phillip Island. So we arrived in Melbourne a few days before that to give the car a once-over at a friend's workshop. Fluid changes, work on the brakes and a clean were all that was required in between drooling over the lovely array of Austin Healeys for sale at The Healey Factory next door. Then, off to Geelong where a fellow AHC member kindly and generously provided us accommodation in his lovely home. He showed us around Geelong which has its own interesting and colourful history and seems to be thriving despite the demise of Ford vehicle

The Geelong Sprints is another long-time icon of Victorian Motorsport, consisting of a quarter mile sprint along the curving Ritchie Boulevard on the Geelong waterfront. As if the curve is not enough, after the finish there is a mere 200 metres to slow down on a narrowing track before reaching an intimidating tyre wall. The event attracts several hundred entries from old classics to moderns. The weather was unfortunately Melbourne-like, with the legendary 'four seasons in a day' erring on the wet. Charlie was a little disappointed not to match his 13.2 second pass from a previous visit to the event. However, 14 seconds was an excellent effort in changeable conditions, and slowing a tonne of TS Special from 100mph on skinny tyres with drum brakes on a damp track needed more than a little bravery. The run was good enough for first in class and a nice little trophy! The field of mostly internal combustion engine cars put up a gallant and impressive effort but, as a sign of the times, the quickest 10.8 second pass was achieved quietly and without any drama (boring!) by a Porsche EV.

Back to Melbourne for a thorough check, clean and new front wheel bearings, before the 150km drive south to Phillip Island. In contrast to Geelong, we enjoyed delightful weather for our entire 4 day stay. The circuit is as impressive as I remember. It is 4.5km in length with 60m of climb. There are no straight bits except the main straight, and parts have dramatic ocean views although Charlie assures me that you do not notice them whilst out on track. For the less adventurous, there is a 750m go kart track that is a replica of the main circuit. Race engines must stay silent from 5PM to 9AM but in between there is full-on noise, colour and activity.

The cars are combined into ten groups, each with two races a day. There were also two regularity runs a day, which saw a track limit of a crazy 60 interesting historic cars out circulating, trying to match their nominated times. I enjoyed the production sports cars races especially the insanely quick little MG Midgets of the Meyer brothers. These were right up at the very pointy end, snapping at the heels of the fastest Porsches and V8 Camaros and Mustangs. 2022 is also the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Brock's first win in a Torana GTR XU-1. As such, the owners put on an impressive static display of nearly 50 cars to commemorate it.

We shared our garage with interesting cars from Charlie's group. These were mostly 1950's specials, two with Repco Holden engines and a couple of Lotus 11 replicas. The famous Mack Healey (an open wheeler built on a on an Austin Healey chassis and running gear) was in the next garage. Many cars suffered from various fuel, electrical and cooling issues that progressively got sorted during the weekend. The TS has a healthy roar at full throttle, to say the least, but popping and flames are not normally in its repertoire. The cause was quite quickly traced to a broken exhaust manifold tube. It was removed and after a trip to a helpful workshop in Cowes and a missed practice session, TS's normal voice was restored.

The safety car plagued two races and Charlie ran a little low on fuel in another. Other than that, Charlie had a strong performance against mostly newer cars, with some enjoyable tussles along the way. The battered looking, but immaculately prepared 1948 flat-head Ford special of Graeme Raper dominated the class. Malcolm Reid achieved the fastest time in his 1955 Holden Repco engine PRAD Mk3. Unfortunately, it had ongoing issues that prevented it from finishing all but one race. As well as the track, our garage was also fun, with it seems an endless parade of friends Charlie has made over the years popping in to say hello. A highlight for me was meeting Joe Ricciardo, F1 star Daniel's dad.

All loaded up, a pleasant celebratory dinner was had and we returned to Melbourne to put the TS to bed until next time. All in all, it was a thoroughly enjoyable experience and I thank you Charlie very much for the opportunity. I must also thank fellow AHC members for their generous and friendly hospitality.

As an epilogue, I decided to stay back for a few days to explore the spectacular scenery around Port Campbell and drive every inch of the Ocean Road from Warrnambool to Torquay. That was very enjoyable too. I am triple-vaxed and spent most of the time by myself in the car or in accommodation, and of course I tried to 'social distance'. But I had a worrying scratch in my throat on my third day and decided to take a RAT. It delivered a negative result, so I returned to Perth only to test positive to two RATs. I got to enjoy my own company for a week after all!

This does not detract from a fun time and if you get a chance to attend the Phillip Island Classic, I thoroughly recommend you do so.



#### **NON VAA EVENTS CALENDAR 2022**

50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR

MTH	Date	DAY	TIM E	EVENT	ADDRESS	CONTACT	PHONE #
April	7 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> 28th	Thurs	8:30 am	Kalamunda Chrome Bumper Group. Meet every Thurs	Gracies Café on Berkshire Road, Forrestfield	www.tsoa-wa.com  Lyle Metcalf	0417 993 631
April	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sat & Sun		The Northam Motor- sport Festival 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Northam		
April	10 <sup>th</sup>	Sat		The Williams Gate- way Expo	Williams	Clay Haddrik Haddrik 95@hotmail.com	048825291 1
	TBA		TBA	Lights on the Hill	Talbot's Farm, Heppingstone Rd, Brunswick Junction	John Tilling Bob Lukins Robert Cook lightsonthe hill- wa@gmail.com	0457 559 199 0428 960 594 0428 637 207
May	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	TBA	Shannon's/Perth Classic Car Show. The VAA tradionally at- tend this Annual event	Ascot Race- course	TBA	
May	15 <sup>TH</sup>	Sun	TBA	All British Car Day Gingin. The VAA tradionally at- tend this Annual event	Leave In con- voy, from Club Rooms	ТВА	

#### FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS - APRIL IS HERE

#### SUNDAY, 10th APRIL

#### **VAA Annual Swap Meet**

9<sup>th</sup> April – Preparation in advance of our Annual Swap Meet the next day (at clubrooms). Loading of everything to take to grounds first thing on Sunday morning.

10th April – Swap Meet at the Swan Italian Club, Middle Swan.

roster has been compiled.

Volunteers on duty from 5:00am to help set-up, and throughout the morning.

SUNDAY, 24th APRIL, 2022

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Official Opening of our Club Rooms and the launch of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book "Past Times"

Calling on Members for your help – could you please let Loris know if you are able to help with any of the following (phone: 0402 032 270)

**Busy Bee on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Need helpers (in the morning) to clean-up inside and outside the Club, toilets, grounds, workshop etc. so, if you have some free time, your help would be appreciated.

And on the Sunday 24th.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Opening of Clubrooms and Book launch.

Apart from bringing our your 'oldies' and joining in the procession starting at 1pm from Guildford, I am seeking some extra help throughout the day:

Need volunteers in the morning of the 24<sup>th</sup> from around 9:00am to help put up gazebos, tables and chairs.

Need volunteers in the morning to set-up urns, cups etc.

Need volunteers on the day to be parking marshals along Helen Street and behind the Club Rooms.

Need volunteers in the Kitchen to help with afternoon tea food preparation.

**NEED SOME VOLUNTEERS TO EITHER BAKE A CAKE/SLICE** (speaking of slices, Jon Jon, did you know you make the BEST chocolate brownies?????

#### **BOOK LAUNCH**

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book titled 'PAST TIMES' is currently being printed and will be presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and will be available for purchase at \$35 per book. It is a limited print run of 150 copies, so you will need to get in quick once they go on sale.

Loris Cooper
Events Coordinator



#### Invitation to Past and Present Members of the V.A.A.

SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022

Bring out your 'Old' cars and family
and join the parade of cars and some afternoon tea
to help

Commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Official opening of the VAA Club Rooms in 2002 at 19 Helen St. Bellevue

Launch of our Anniversary Book - "Past Times"
A club event celebrating our Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1972 – 2022
(Copies of the book will be available for sale on the day, but get in early as there is a limited number available - there will not be another print run)

1:00PM All cars to assemble at FISHERMAN'S MARKET, SWAN STREET, WEST GUILDFORD.

1:45PM Leave in convoy and drive to Club Rooms, 19 Helen Street, Bellevue.

2:00PM On arrival at Club, park cars behind club rooms and along Helen Street.

2:45pm WELCOME and BOOK LAUNCH.

3:00pm Afternoon Tea & book sales.

#### **CAN YOU HELP**

DOES ANYONE KNOW THE WHERE ABOUTS OF, OR CONTACT DETAILS OF, OUR FIRST & FOUNDING PRESIDENT DOUG BARBER

> If so, could you please contact Loris Cooper, VAA Events Coordinator, by phoning: 0402 032 270



#### **VAA EVENTS CALENDAR 2022 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR**

March 2022

MTH	DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	ADDRESS	CONTACT	PHONE #
April	9 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	AM	Swap Meet Preparation	Club Rooms	Ray Smith	0416 018 119
April	10 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	5:00am setup 6:00am sellers 7:00am buyers	V.A.A SWAP MEET	SWAN ITALIAN CLUB, 9 Francis St, Middle Swan	Ray Smith	0416 018 119
April	12 <sup>TH</sup>	Tue	8:00pm	VAA CLUB MEETING 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Martin Steere	0407 993 933
April	19 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	7:30pm	Committee of Management Meeting	Club Rooms	Martin Steere	0407 993 933
April	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sat	9:00am	Busy Bee at Club in prepa- ration of 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary/ book launch	Club Rooms	Loris Cooper Tony Warner	0402 032 270 0417 555 073
April	24 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	1:00pm onwards	20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hel- en Street Club Rooms and LAUNCH of 50 <sup>th</sup> ANNIVER- SARY BOOK Car parade & afternoon tea 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event	ТВА	Loris Cooper Tony Warner	0402 032 270 0417 555 073
April	30 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	12:30pm	Events Planning Meeting	Club Rooms	Loris Cooper	0402 032 270
May	10 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	8:00pm	VAA CLUB MEETING 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Martin Steere	0407 993 933
May	12 <sup>th</sup>	Thu	9:00am meet 9:30 leave	M/Week Clayton's Run (Noble Falls, Chidlow, Mt Helena)	Club Rooms	Mark Atkinson	0488 775 421
May	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	8:30am on- wards	VAA CAR INSPECTION Bring your car in for its inspection and have morning tea at the same time)	Club Rooms	Ray Roberts	0438 911 387
May	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	10:00am	VAA AUSTRALIA'S BIG- GEST MORNING TEA Cancer Council Fundraiser 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event	Club Rooms	Loris Cooper	0402 032 270
May	28 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	12:30pm	Events Planning Meeting	Club Rooms	Loris Cooper	0402 032 270
June	14 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	8:00pm	VAA CLUB MEEETING 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Martin Steere	0407 993 933
June	25th	Sat	Arrive 6:00pm	GALA DINNER 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event	Gosnells Golf Club, Can- ningvale	Loris Cooper & Cheryl Glew	0402 032270 432 239 349
June	28 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	7:30pm	Committee of Manage- ment Meeting	Club Rooms	Martin Steere	0407 993 933
July	12 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	7:00pm BBQ 8:00pm meet- ing	VAA CLUB MEETING and AGM	Club Rooms	Martin Steere	0407 993 933
July	17 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	ТВА	VAA PRESIDENT'S RUN 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event	ТВА	Tony Warner	0417 555 073

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Unit 1/64 Destiny Way Wangara WA 6065

perthcarbyspecialists@gmail.com www.perthcarburettorspecialists.com.au Wanted 235 Chevy blue flame engine. Complete if possible.

Regards

Kevin Sadler M/ph 0403004032

For Sale Chev front (outer) wheel bearing Mid 30's -1955 2 sets NOS Never Used in original boxes

1 set to suit both sides Roller bearing (3 piece) (\$150 both)

1 Set to suit both sides Tapered Roller bearing (2 piece) Rare to find (\$180 both)

Contact Sam 0434205187