

# *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](http://www.wdcvc.org.au) (E-Mail: - [wdcvc@hotmail.com](mailto:wdcvc@hotmail.com))**

**MARCH 2024 EDITION**



**Members Rides**

**Charles & Ruby's 1971 Holden HQ SS**

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY 27th MARCH (7.30pm)**

## 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

*Lyn Cook, Joe Mallia, Cloe Tabone, Alf Schembri, Reno Polidano,  
Charlie Cook and Brendan Vogan*

### And these Milestone Birthdays

*Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday John Marks for the 12<sup>th</sup>  
and*

*Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the following members*

*Brian Gosney 13<sup>th</sup>*

*Alan Webster 17<sup>th</sup>*

*Elio Massari for the 10<sup>th</sup>*



## WDCVC Life Members

Gil Taylor (Dec)  
John Agosta (Jnr)

Sandy Taylor (Dec)  
Charmaine Agosta

Les Turner  
Elio Massari



# GET WELL SOON!

**Our best wishes to the following members.**

- John Agosta (Snr)
- Elio Massari
- Peter Kime
- Karen Daly
- Jeannie Todaro
- Linda Galea

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

## **CLUB MEMBERS GRAHAM AND JACKIE COLLIS WON AWARD AT THE RECENT BEGONIA RALLY**

President's Choice sponsored by Bosch Mr Brakes.

The Joan Hayward Award presented by Garry Hayward

Winners – Graham and Jackie Collis

Werribee Collectable Vehicle Club

1946 Ford Super Delux

Right: Graham Collis  
accepting Trophy from  
Garry Hayward



## **It's Your Newsletter, so get involved!**

### **We encourage anyone to Contribute!**

Please don't leave it to a few players to always be the ones writing or submitting articles or pictures.

Everyone has a story they like sharing, it doesn't have to be an epic novel, a few paragraphs is OK or even a few interesting images with descriptions of what they are.

It can be about anything of interest to members not only about the cars we have today.

What about a short article on that great Cruise or a fantastic Caravan Holiday to some distant location around our country, or a car or motorbike, even push bike you re-built or repaired when you were young, a historical article about a lost company or an interesting person you knew from the past are all welcome.

Articles hand written or typed are all acceptable. Send via Memory stick, E-Mail, SMS, Snail mail to PO Box 841 Werribee, Carrier Pigeon (if you have access to one), or even personally hand your contributions to President or Editor. They will arrange for any hand written articles to be typed.

If you wish to provide an article as "Anonymous", that's also OK.

So please don't leave it to faithful few or your editor to provide articles to fill your Newsletter.

If you are at any club event, take a photo or two on your phone and scribble a few notes.

One story per trip from members different point of view would all be printed in Newsletter.

Send them all to: Mob. 0413 884 234 or [wdcvc@hotmail.com](mailto:wdcvc@hotmail.com) or [magoos\\_4@bigpond.com](mailto:magoos_4@bigpond.com)

# 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                                     |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Executive Committee</b>  |  |   |
| <u>President</u><br>Colin Pierce (Shirley)  | colin@colshirl.com   | 0413 884 234                              |
| <u>Vice President</u><br>Daniel Smith (Amanda)  | Djs84@outlook.com.au   | 0408 328 028                              |
| <u>Secretary/Public Officer</u><br>Carmel Calleja (Nick)  | wdcvcsecretary@gmail.com   | 0424 305 721                              |
| <u>Treasurer</u><br>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                              |
| <b>Office Bearers</b>   |  |   |
| <u>Club Captain</u>   |  |   |
| <u>Editor &amp; Publisher</u><br>Jenny Matthews (Rod)   | magoos_4@bigpond.com   | 0422 699 361                              |
| <u>Mid-Week Run Captain</u><br>Les Turner (Lorraine)  |  | 9741 6657                                 |
| <u>Safety Officers</u><br>Elio Massari (Nancy)<br>Charlie Cook (Lyn)  |  | 9741 6103<br>9741 3328                    |
| <u>Club Permit Officer/s</u><br>Yves Schieseck (Sandra)<br>Wayne Rodgers (Jen)<br>Colin Pierce (Scrutineer) | breton29@aussiebroadband.com.au<br>waynerodgers.61@gmail.com<br>colin@colshirl.com | 9749 3376<br>0405 380 005<br>0413 884 234 |
| <u>Regalia Officer</u><br>Len Mallia (Carmen)   | lencar6@bigpond.com.au   | 0412 529 801                              |
| <u>Librarian</u><br>Peter Kime (Patricia)   | pjkime@hotmail.com   | 0409 798641                               |
| <u>Web &amp; Face Book Monitor</u><br>Daniel Smith (Amanda)   | DJS84@outlook.com.au   | 0408 328 028                              |
| <u>Welfare Officer</u><br>Rose Ravaneschi   | sirbas53@hotmail.com   | 0412 456 892                              |
| <u>Social Secretaries</u><br>Connie Mallia (Ronnie)   | c.m.62@hotmail.com   | 0439 619 083                              |
| <u>Federation Representatives</u><br>Colin Pierce (Shirley)<br>Michael Galea (Linda)                        | colin@colshirl.com<br>mgal6416@gmail.com   | 0413 884 234<br>0421 670 304              |
| <u>Council Representative</u><br>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



# WDCVC Members Only Car Show



SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> March 10am till 3:00PM  
(Display Cars must be parked by 9:30)

Location: Grounds alongside B24 Museum Hanger.

## Trophies on Offer

- Pre 1940's
- 1940 ~ 1950
- 1950 ~ 1960
- 1960 ~ 1970
- 1970 ~ 1980
- 1980 ~ 1990
- 1990 ~ 2000
- Future Classic post 2000's
- Commercial Van, Ute, Pickup or Truck
- Street Rod any year
- Motor Bike any year
- Original or unrestored vehicle
- People's Choice Trophy



FREE Entry for members and display vehicles, including FREE entry into B24 Museum.

Club BBQ Trailer onsite. Club to provide BBQ Meat and bread, Members cook their own. BYO Salads, Picnic Tables and Chairs. Club Gazebos available.

Address: Corner Farm Rd and Princes Highway. Entry Gate off Princes Highway



# WDCVC'S LAWN BOWLS FUN DAY



**DAY/DATE SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL (ARRIVE 10:30 AM)**  
**LOCATION: WERRIBEE BOWLS CLUB, 239 WATTON STREET WERRIBEE**  
**TROPHIES TO BE WON.**



- Cost: \$10/ Head to Bowl, Spectators FREE
- BBQ Lunch (Our Club to supply meat and Bread (Cook on BBQ undercover at bowls club))
- Please, BYO Salads, etc. seating and tables available.
- Drinks, purchase from Bowls Club Bar.
- To book please contact:
- Colin, at [wdcvc@hotmail.com](mailto:wdcvc@hotmail.com)



# Membership for WDCVC's 2024 ~ 2025 Club Year

It's almost time to renew your WDCVC membership!

Every member will receive a renewal notification in April, fees must be paid to Club no later than 30th June.

We can't stress enough how crucial it is to keep your membership current, especially if you have any vehicle on club rego.

WDCVC are obliged to notify VicRoads if a member is no longer financial and their Club Permit will be cancelled.

If you drive your permitted vehicle after VicRoads is notified, and are no longer financial it could lead to a fine or even loss of your permit.

If you've already paid, don't forget to pick up your membership card from Treasurer at Club general meeting.

We appreciate your cooperation and can't wait to have you back for another fantastic year!



*Club Cruise for Brunch at Fonzie's Diner.  
Dressing up to blend with Fonzie's Diner Theme, is optional.  
A Prize is on offer for best dressed Guy and Girl.  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May, Meet at Diner 11:00am  
Address: 93 Canterbury Rd, Kilsyth*

**After Lunch, around 1:00pm we take a 15minute drive to Lane88 Car Museum  
Address: 88 Lewis Road Wantirna South**



**Booking: Contact Colin 0413884234**





# 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.

| EVENT   | Date           | Time    | Coordinator                |
|---|----------------|---------|----------------------------|
| <b>MARCH</b>  |                |         |                            |
| <b>CLUB MEMBERS ONLY CAR SHOW.</b> B24 hanger on cnr Farm Rd and Princes Hwy. 10am-3pm. Please note: Display Cars need to be parked by 9.30am. (Trophies on offer) FREE Sausage Sizzle on Club BBQ Trailer<br>BYO Salads, Picninc Tables and Chairs. See flyer on page 5  | Sunday 24th    | 9.30am  | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| General Meeting (Club Rooms)  | Wednesday 27th | 7.30pm  | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| <b>"NO"</b> Casual Sunday Meeting for March due to Easter   |                |         |                            |
| <b>APRIL</b>  |                |         |                            |
| Committee Meeting   | Wednesday 3rd  | 7:30pm  | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| <b>COFFEE / BREAKFAST MORNING.</b> The South Corner Café.<br>11 Wedge St South, Werribee  | Sunday 7th     | 10am    | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| <b>Club MID-WEEK RUN.</b> Victoria Hotel (Woodend) Meet 10am at BP S/S Rockbank. Bookings essential. Please contact Les to book.  | Wednesday 10th | 10am    | Les Turner<br>0408 014 358 |
| <b>LAWN Bowls Day</b> at Werribee Bowls Club. Followed by BBQ at Bowls Club. (WDCVC to provide meat for BBQ (Sausages/Hamburgers). (Members BYO Salads, plates and cutlery, etc.) Tables and chairs are all undercover. Drinks at Bar Prices from fully stocked Bar. Cost to Bowl is \$10/Head as many games as you can fit in. See flyer on page 5 | Sunday 14th    | 10.30am | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| General Meeting (Club Rooms)  | Wednesday 24th | 7.30pm  | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| Casual Sunday Meeting   | Sunday 28th    | 9am     | John<br>0407 546 235       |
| <b>MAY</b>  |                |         |                            |
| <b>CLUB RUN</b> to Fonzie's DINER for BRUNCH. Meet at the FONZIE's 11am - 93 Canterbury Rd, Kilsyth. Then Lane 88 Penrites Car Museum 88 Lewis Road Wantirna South. Please contact Colin to book. See flyer on page 6   | Sunday 5th     | 11am    | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| Committee Meeting   | Monday 6th     | 7:30pm  | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| <b>COFFEE/BRUNCH MORNING</b> - Location TBA   | Sunday 19th    | 10.30am | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| General Meeting (Club Rooms)  | Wednesday 22nd | 7.30pm  | Colin<br>0413 884 234      |
| Casual Sunday Meeting   | Sunday 26th    | 9am     | John<br>0407 546 235       |

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: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Chairman:** Colin Pierce    **Vice President:** Apologies

**Meeting opened:** 07:40pm    **Meeting closed:** 8:35pm

**Visitors:** Ron and Joy Sleeman, Graham Brinsden and Danny Davis, all looking to join the Club.

**Speaker:** Nil

**Apologies:** Carmel Calleja, Daniel Smith, Reno Polidano, Andrew Babbage, Mitch Jones, Lindsay Coghill, Elio Massari, Peter Kime, Charlie Cook, Rob Elliott, Len and Carmen Mallia, Tony Todaro, Maria Turner, Mark Reilly, Dennis O'Brien, Ian Cameron John Agosta (Snr).

**Minutes of previous meeting: Comments/Questions:** Nil

**Moved & Accepted:** 1<sup>st</sup> Heather O'Brien    2<sup>nd</sup> Werner Bernhardt

**Minutes of Committee Meeting Held on 5<sup>th</sup> February:** No report as Carmel away.

**Correspondence:**

- No Correspondence IN or Out

**Treasurers Report to: 31/01/2024 Presented by Jenny Matthews (Treasurer)**

**Comments/Questions:** NIL .

**Moved & Accepted as presented:** 1<sup>st</sup> Russell Thompson    2<sup>nd</sup> Werner Bernhardt.

**President's ramblings:**

- Re-confirmed Members Only Car Show will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March in the grounds of B24 Bomber Museum. Club is sponsoring the day, trophies on offer with FREE entry and FREE BBQ lunch for all members with their vehicles on show.
- Optional Club rooms remains on the agenda. Discussions with council not very positive so it looks like we remain in current location.
- We have at last confirmed a Club visit to **Lane88 Museum** and Bruch at the famous Fonzie's Diner for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May, lock this one in. We require 40 people to make the day viable for Lane88, so if you wish to bring friend they would be welcome.

**Club Coming Events Report:**

- Les gave a brief report on successful Mid-week run held on Valentine's Day on 14<sup>th</sup> February to Clifton Springs Golf Club.
- Next Mid-Week Run Les is arranging is on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April heading to Victoria Hotel (Woodend). Contact Les to Book. See full details in Calendar of Events in Newsletter.
- Les outlined why it's necessary to book as restaurants or Hotels require numbers. Many restaurants or Hotels are requiring deposits to be paid for group bookings.

**Other Runs and Events:**

- Russell outlined the Cruise he has arranged to Chocolate Factory Torquay on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March, followed by lunch at Winchelsea Hotel. Russell requires final numbers.
- Club Members only Car Show Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March
- Based on vote taken of the members the Casual Sunday Cars and Coffee Casual Sunday for March is cancelled as it falls on Easter Sunday.
- Coffee morning at South Corner Café Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April is Lawn Bowls Day. FREE BBQ and Trophies hand out.
- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April Cars and Coffee Casual Sunday returns.

**Social secretary's report: Connie Mallia.**

- Connie gave an over view of the Clubs next Presentation night on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August. Connie and her helpers are reviewing the menu. Other venues are also being reviewed.
- Its proposed Club runs a Trivia Night at Club Rooms, date to be confirmed. Proposal is we make up tables of 6 or 8 as teams. Members requested to bring a plate of snacks they can place on their table.
- Another special event to be held in Club Rooms is a Dinner, where people bring along a dish to share representing their country of origin. Date for this yet to be confirmed.

**Editors report: Jenny Held her MARS BAR competition with only one winner at the meeting.**

**Raffle Winner/s:** FIRST

SECOND

THIRD

**General/New Business:**

**No new members accepted this month..**

Thanks for reading on behalf of **Club Secretary-Carmel**



# President's Report



Hello Members.

Just to bring members up to speed on one of our members, John Agosta (Snr).

John is doing reasonably well, and is at home looking after himself, but for time being is not allowed to drive due to having a stroke.

John has himself a motorised 3 wheel scooter (Wants to fit a V8 into it) to enable him to get to shops for essentials. John's daughter Maryanne keeps close tabs on John's whereabouts and is doing much of the running around for John.

If you get a chance give John a call on his home number I'm sure he would love to have a chat.

Same goes for other members struggling with health issues, Elio Massari and Peter Kime as examples, I'm sure they would like to hear from members.

If we have any Club event, why not give them a call to see if they need a ride to attend Club Events.

It's good to see so many members enjoying a few of the events we have organised.

Coffee morning at Feasting Shed was a great time and we had many members that are not normally part of the scene, good on ya hope to see more of you at the next Coffee Morning at South Corner Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

A couple of other Club Held events I'd like to encourage as many members as possible to attend.

One is Club's Cruise on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> to Chocolate and Ice Cream Factory near Torquay at, 1200 Great Ocean Rd, Bellbrae. After few fill up on Chocolates or Ice Creams we're off Winchelsea Hotel for Lunch. Russell and Judy Thompson are the coordinators for event

The biggie for our members is the Annual Members Only Car Show on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April on the grounds of the B24 Bomber Museum. To help make it successful and put on a show for the public and visually demonstrate what our Car is about we need as many Club Vehicles on display as humanly possible we have the room. Its FREE entry to all members, with FREE BBQ Sausage Sizzle, trophies handed out on the Day. Remember this is where the Club's Vehicle of the Year is selected.

As you will see in Calendar of events we're not holding our Cars and Coffee Casual Sunday in March as it falls on Easter Sunday and members voted to not hold it, but we will be back bigger and better in April.

In the past Club tried to hold cruise to Lane88 (Penrite Oils Car Museum) but it didn't quite come off for many reasons some of which were out of our hands.

Well it's on again, and locked in with Museum plus on same day we will enjoy BRUNCH at the famous FONZIE's DINER. Some member have intimated they will be dressing up for this occasion, especially Fonzie's Diner 50'/60's theme, best dressed Guy and Gal plus best dressed couple will be voted on and prizes handed out.

See more in Newsletter, but lock out Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May to attend this cruise.

Check Events page in Monthly Newsletter for all events and meetings.

Please ensure you make an effort to attend at least some of them as those arranging these Club events for us all put a lot of their personal time in arranging them.

Cheers

Col

# Signing of Club Permits

Friendly Reminder from your Club's **Permit Officer/s, Wayne, Colin and Yves** regarding procedure for having your **Permits signed**.

- **Preferred option** – Bring your VicRoads permit renewal or new permit application to next club meeting for signing.
  - **If you are unable to attend a meeting then:**
- **Second Option** – Mail to Club P.O. Box 841 Werribee marked Permit Officer and include a Stamped Self Addressed envelope for signed permit to be returned.
- **\*Third Option** – Mail to one of the Permit Officer's addresses, include a Stamped Self Addressed envelope for signed permit to be returned.
- **\*Fourth Option** – Drop documents into one of Permit Officer's mailboxes for pick up the following day (include your phone number to get a text to say it's ready for pick up) or include a **Stamped Self Addressed envelope**.
- **Fifth Option** – Contact one of the Permit Officers and make other arrangements suitable to both parties.
- **Sixth Option** – For renewals only. Access VicRoads **online** Club permit endorsement form, complete and E-Mail it to one of the Permit Officers for signing and E-Mail it back duly signed.

- **VERY IMPORTANT** – When applying for a new Permit:

PLEASE ensure you have **ALL** VicRoads documentation completed.

**(1) Application for a Permit and**

**(2) Vehicle eligibility and standards declaration for Club Permit scheme vehicle form.**

**(3) A copy of your approved Roadworthiness Certificate.**

*Also supply electronic images of vehicle taken from (Front, Rear, Side, Engine Bay and Interior on Drivers side). This saves both you and Permit Officer's a lot of wasted time.*

***Please NOTE\* Re Options Three and Four:–***

***PERMIT OFFICERS ARE ALL RETIRED AND ARE NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE.***

***PLEASE TEXT OR PHONE BEFORE USING THESE OPTIONS TO ENSURE PERMIT OFFICER IS NOT AWAY AS YOU MAY NOT GET YOUR PERMIT BACK IN TIME.***

## *Valentine's Day Mid-week Run to Clifton Springs 14th February 2024*

After an exhausting 3 days of extreme heat, and bushfires etc, across Victoria, it was time to head off on the first Mid Week run for 2024 under the leadership and direction of Les Turner.

24 members including Brett Murray making his maiden voyage, assembled at the Little River service centre for the usual coffee and catch up session. Only a very small number of club cars were on show.

Being Valentine's Day, it appeared that all the men were being extremely pleasant to the ladies who were all as usual looking splendid.

At 11-30 it was time to head off on the Les Turner magical mystery tour to Clifton Springs. We reached our destination at around 12-15pm, and were all seated at the one table, which was ideal. Meals and drinks were ordered with Bowls of Mussels being a delicacy for a select few. All members received their excellent meals within about 10 minutes from start to finish with some adding beautiful desserts as well.

Discussion around the tables ranged from the usual topics (cars) but climate change, pets, grocery home deliveries, and politics were given a good thrashing as well.

An excellent day again and all participants headed off home at around 2-45pm.

Many thanks again to Les and Lorraine Turner.

Brian Gosney #442





# THE CASUAL SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> .....

Again we were blessed with near perfect weather for our February show, however the turn-out was not as great as the January showing. Some members were otherwise occupied such as Brian Gosney, who arrived for the set-up, but then nicked off for a golf appointment. Mick and Linda Galea had only returned the night before from a Tasmanian sojourn, so a rest at home took priority for Linda. Team leader Lindsay was away but advised that the crew knew what to do without supervision.

This month we had no “weird and wonderful” machines such as Len Schutt’s Ansaldo, as he and some others may have been attending the annual turn-out at the Hobsons Bay Men’s Shed. The classic car scene is huge so almost every Sunday there’s another show somewhere nearby.

Our CSM was well attended by our own exhibits and some interesting visitor’s cars. Star of the show was probably Mario Farrugia’s ’58 Thunderbird convertible in classic red. This huge machine has received much attention during Mario’s stewardship of ten years. It features the 390ci “wide block” cast iron engine which also came in three other capacities. Ford was apparently dis-satisfied with the length of this beauty, so they tacked on a spare wheel holder with modified rear bumper to accommodate it.

Ronnie Mallia showed his recently completed HQ ute, beautifully presented with Premier front clip, and the big 308 donkey. Roland Wade’s pristine ’57 mainline is another great Ford effort. Rob Bradley has nearly finished restoring his “other” Triumph TR4, one he has owned most of his life, but it was not quite ready for un-veiling, so he arrived in the Stag. John Ryan’s ’47 Ford ute is temporarily off the road for want of a 6volt “festoon” globe from the turn indicator mechanism. Any offers for John?

A couple of Porsches arrived. Alex and Margaret Casha’s ’84 911, and visitor Charlie Farrugia’s ’96 993 roadster. Anyone know the difference between a Leyland Mini and a Rover Mini? These two arrived, but the mystery is un-resolved. Jeff Cauchi drove in in the rarely seen blue Torana. Visit Jeff’s garage and you will understand the extraordinarily difficult job of levering it out onto the street.

Another nice one was Roland Bailey’s HQ Monaro coupe. “Roland, was it like this when you bought it?” “Well no, it was derelict, the rear section full of rain water”. A super job of restoration for this now very valuable car.

So many others we could fill another newsletter. Many thanks to the crew of Rose, Connie and Vicki on the desk, and set-up crew the two Brians, John Ryan, John Kirkbride, Gary Kennedy, Peter Lockwood and Prez Colin. Heather O’Brien and Alf Schembri drove the BBQ trailer to perfection.

“Don’t forget, no show in March” (Easter Sunday).









# *Elio Massari, the Quiet Achiever.....*

Written by John Marks

Elio is a founding member of the WDCVC who has made a massive contribution to the club over many years. He is also a vehicle builder / restorer par excellence. You name it, he's done it, even built his house in Edgar St with a little help from the relo's, and is a devoted family man with nine grandies.

Elio has successfully carried out all aspects of vehicle restoration: panel work, painting, mechanicals, electrical, upholstery etc. on his T Model Fords and others and for club members cars. All his work has been conducted in his two-car garage, with the need to park his current cars outside during each job. For one member's Ford F100, Elio took two beat up panels at a time, providing a perfect finish, then moved to the rest of the bits. When the painter got on site, he was pleased that all this was an easy paint job as the panels were very well prepared.

Born in Italy, Elio migrated to Australia as a five-year old in 1959. He is a Werribee boy through and through, but his career took him to many employers and crafts over the years. Elio commenced an apprenticeship as aircraft mechanic specializing in sheet metal and worked for the Commonwealth at Fishermen's Bend and Avalon. Watching the action at an after-school job cleaning up at a butcher's shop in Station Place, Elio soon learned the cuts and eventually took over the shop in partnership: "Massari's Meats." This was a weekend job, as Elio was also supervising a crew of twelve at Avalon assembling F18 Hornets for the RAAF.

Elio's first "resto" was a 1925 Dodge tourer, found in a barn in Bacchus Marsh, and on the road after three years. Even before getting his driver's licence, Elio was good at fixing things, less cash to buy new things but plenty of skill and initiative. The Dodge was sold and finished up in New Zealand. Next came Elio's first T Model, a 1927 (the last Model T) another three-year restoration. But Elio moved on, and the car was delivered to Roma in QLD on a trailer by Elio and his mate the late George Pengelly.



Always keen for a new challenge, during the mid-eighties Elio answered an advertisement from Bendigo for a 1913 T Model Ford. When he arrived, all he could see was a trailer-load of rusty bits, but when the vendor opened a cupboard to reveal the "jewellery", the brass headlamps, grill etc, Elio's eyes lit up. All the wood frame in the body was researched and built by Elio. The rest is history.

All of Elio's cars were repainted, the '25 Dodge with a darker blue, the T Models in black (Henry Ford had only one colour for his T Models). The Jag (now in the hands of club member Lindsay Coghill) was originally yellow (yuk?), and his green 50's Dodge was also stripped right back. Elio even painted a small aeroplane.





Elio and Nancy married in 1976. They have a son and two daughters, who have presented the couple with nine grandchildren. Don't imagine that the resto work went "on hold" at the time. Elio was hot for the cars, and Nancy threatened to make up his bed in the garage.



Newer members would not know that in younger days, Elio had a bit of extrovert and showmanship hidden in there. On a club tour to Tasmania, Elio eclipsed the dress-up gang with his rendition of Dracula, complete with a pre-fabbed cardboard coffin, all nicely lined. On another occasion he came out unrecognizable as rapper Red Foo with Nancy as Cyndi Lauper. Despite this, Elio claims to be slow on his feet as a speaker. Deeds not words?

Elio was a member of the Vintage Drivers Club, and then became a founding member of the WDCVC in 1991, taking on Club Captain after George Pengelly. Elio hosted the Annual Awards nights for many years, organizing the events and sourcing raffle and other prizes. He mentions the generosity of Repco, with donations of tools etc to some hundreds of \$\$\$\$.

Then there was the club newsletter, assembled at Edgar Street with the help of Les and Lorraine Turner and kids. 120 copies each month, printed on the club photo copier, published and mailed. Currently Elio is one of the club safety officers in partnership with Charlie Cook, having the task of assessing pre-1948 cars for the "Red Plate" permit scheme. Elio rightly deserves his Life Membership.



When the aircraft work fizzled, Elio worked as maintenance engineer at Kodak. When film cameras became obsolete, Elio did a year at HMA Naval Dockyard as inspector, and then finished up at Sonoco making containers. A bit of ingenuity had Elio setting up the machinery to roll the cardboard and metal packaging.

As a founding member, Elio has been able to observe changes in membership and program over the years. Then the club was generally populated by family rearing couples and their kids. Most events included outdoor picnics with plenty of fun and action for all. Now most of us active members are grandparents, with the younger generation busy with mortgages and kid rearing. Les Turner's mid-week runs with indoor destinations are so popular. Some club cars such as Commodores were not built when Elio and crew set up the WDCVC.

Elio is retired and doing it tough with ill-health. We wish him all the best for a good speed of recovery. Such a man has been instrumental in ensuring the current strength of the WDCVC, and earning the high regard with which he is held. We're all with you Elio.





# Ford fan's old favorite doesn't break any speed records

**"WITH a bit of tin and a bit of board, you've got yourself a Ford."**

It was a brave man who uttered these words among hundreds of car lovers at the Kiwanis All Ford Day yesterday.

Luckily, that man was a mate of Elio Massari, Ford lover supreme and owner of a vintage 1913 T model.

Elio drove from Werribee yesterday morning at top speed in the Ford — about 80km/h.

"Ah well, as least you don't get booked," he said.

Although the machine is worth around \$40,000, you get the feeling the price tag is not Elio's biggest consideration.

More than \$15,000 and three years of working weekends have gone into the restoration, which the fitter and turner proudly said he had done from top to bottom.

"It was a trailer load of rusty bits and pieces when I got it," he said.

While Elio's first car — at age 18 — was

a **HOLDEN**, he was quickly converted and by 20 was a collector.

He has eight Fords, four of them vintage, but the Model T was a veteran, he said.

"It's my favorite, something different," Elio said. "I always wanted a veteran, I love the older look."

While the Model T is saved mostly for special occasions, Elio said the Ford days were a great chance to catch up and compare cars with other Ford lovers.

"It's a good day out and we help each other out," he said.

— NATALIE STAAKS

Newspaper article from 1999



It's my favorite, something different. I always wanted a veteran, I love the older look.

— ELIO MASSARI



Elio Massari polishes his 1913 Ford with help from Nicholas Hubbard.

Photos: MIKE DUGDALE



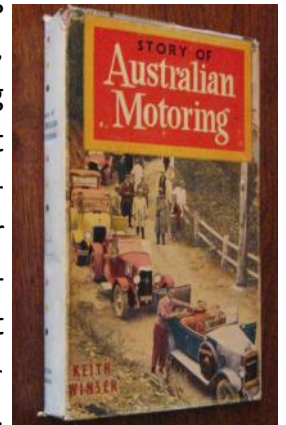
# ECHUCA LIBRARY'S AMAZING COLLECTION OF MOTOR BOOKS

You've probably heard that the Echuca Holden Museum is winding down after thirty years and the cars are soon to be auctioned off.

[National Holden Motor Museum to permanently close - Torquecafe.com](http://Torquecafe.com)

There are still plenty of reasons to visit Echuca, but you might not be aware of the amazing collection of auto books held at the Echuca branch of the Campaspe Regional Library Service. The collection belonged to William Innes Everard 1917-1998 who was originally from Adelaide, served in New Guinea in WW2 then worked in Sydney in the motor parts industry (hey, I did that too back in 1982 – that is, worked at the City Ford parts shop in Sydney!). Mr Everard eventually moved to Nanneella which is a short trip south of Echuca, close to Rochester.

As far as I can tell the collection has not been included on the Campaspe Library's public access catalogue. So it is pretty much a matter of dropping in, taking a peek, and politely asking the desk staff to open the cabinet for you. Plenty of interesting books including "Story of Australian Motoring" by Keith Winser (I copied the pic right from Ebay, sorry!), Automobile Year 1956-57 to 1987-88 and what I believe is its predecessor Annual Automobile Review 1953-54 to 1955-56, Phil Irving's Tuning for Speed, various books by LJK Setright, Moss and Hailwood's Racing and All That, Duncan Hamilton's Touch Wood, Innes Ireland's Motor Racing Today, Graham Hill's Life at the Limit, Fangio's My Twenty Years of Racing, Lost Causes of Motoring by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Road and Track magazines from 1950s, UK MotorSport mags 1950s, 1970s and so much more.



For me a highlight was viewing the 1969-70 edition of Automobile Year which is a treat for a Bruce McLaren fan: 1969 being his last full year in Formula 1 (before his fatal testing accident in the UK in June 1970) and 1969 the year of McLaren Cars total domination of all 11 races in the CanAm series, with Bruce partnered by fellow Kiwi Denny Hulme.



Dodgy snap of 1969-70 Automobile Year



A collection of Automobile Years to die for



The Everard Collection of motor books at Echuca Library

Best of all the Echuca Library is only about 200m from the Holden Museum, at 310 Hare Street, on the Murray as you head from the port area back towards the main shopping strip. Some older maps have the library situated on the corner of High and Heygarth streets, but this is no longer the case. The staff member who assisted me on the day (early in February) mentioned that it was a long time since anyone had asked to look at a book from the Everard collection. Now we all know what can happen to under-utilised public resources at the annual budget review, so can I suggest you drop in next time you are in Echuca!

Fraser Faithfull #122





# I love electric vehicles – and was an early adopter. But increasingly I feel duped.

Written by Rowan Atkinson in The Guardian. June 3 2023  
Article sent in by Alex Casha #97

**Sadly, keeping your old petrol car may be better than buying an EV.  
There are sound environmental reasons not to jump just yet.**



Electric motoring is, in theory, a subject about which I should know something. My first university degree was in electrical and electronic engineering, with a subsequent master's in control systems. Combine this, perhaps surprising, academic pathway with a lifelong passion for the motorcar, and you can see why I was drawn into an early adoption of electric vehicles. I bought my first electric hybrid 18 years ago and my first pure electric car nine years ago and (notwithstanding our poor electric charging infrastructure) have enjoyed my time with both very much. Electric vehicles may be a bit soulless, but they're wonderful mechanisms: fast, quiet and, until recently, very cheap to run. But increasingly, I feel a little duped. When you start to drill into the facts, electric motoring doesn't seem to be quite the environmental panacea it is claimed to be.

As you may know, the government has proposed a ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars from 2030. The problem with the initiative is that it seems to be largely based on conclusions drawn from only one part of a car's operating life: what comes out of the exhaust pipe. Electric cars, of course, have zero exhaust emissions, which is a welcome development, particularly in respect of the air quality in city centres. But if you zoom out a bit and look at a bigger picture that includes the car's manufacture, the situation is very different. In advance of the Cop26 climate conference in Glasgow in 2021, Volvo released figures claiming that greenhouse gas emissions during production of an electric car are nearly 70% higher than when manufacturing a petrol one. How so? The problem lies with the lithium-ion batteries fitted currently to nearly all electric vehicles: they're absurdly heavy, huge amounts of energy are required to make them, and they are estimated to last only upwards of 10 years. It seems a perverse choice of hardware with which to lead the automobile's fight against the climate crisis.

BMW 330e M Performance white

Major plug-in hybrid cars pollute more than official measures suggest

Unsurprisingly, a lot of effort is going into finding something better. New, so-called solid-state batteries are being developed that should charge more quickly and could be about a third of the weight of the current ones – but they are years away from being on sale, by which time, of course, we will have made millions of overweight electric cars with rapidly obsolescing batteries. Hydrogen is emerging as an interesting alternative fuel, even though we are slow in developing a truly "green" way of manufacturing it. It can be used in one of two ways. It can power a hydrogen fuel cell (essentially, a kind of battery); the car manufacturer Toyota has poured a lot of money into the development of these. Such a system weighs half of an equivalent lithium-ion battery and a car can be refuelled with hydrogen at a filling station as fast as with petrol.

If the lithium-ion battery is an imperfect device for electric cars, concerns have been raised over their use in heavy trucks for long distance haulage because of the weight; an alternative is to inject hydrogen into a new kind of piston engine. JCB, the company that makes yellow diggers, has made huge strides with hydrogen engines and hopes to put them into production in the next couple of years. If hydrogen wins the race to power trucks – and as a result every filling station stocks it – it could be a popular and accessible choice for cars.



A Volvo hybrid car undergoes emissions tests for the campaign group Transport & Environment in 2021. Photograph: Emissions Analytics/Reuters

But let's zoom out even further and consider the whole life cycle of an automobile. The biggest problem we need to address in society's relationship with the car is the "fast fashion" sales culture that has been the commercial template of the car industry for decades. Currently, on average we keep our new cars for only three years before selling them on, driven mainly by the ubiquitous three-year leasing model. This seems an outrageously profligate use of the world's natural resources when you consider what great condition a three-year-old car is in. When I was a child, any car that was five years old was a bucket of rust and halfway through the gate of the scrapyards. Not any longer. You can now make a car for £15,000 that, with tender loving care, will last for 30 years. It's sobering to think that if the first owners of new cars just kept them for five years, on average, instead of the current three, then car production and the CO2 emissions associated with it, would be vastly reduced. Yet we'd be enjoying the same mobility, just driving slightly older cars.

We need also to acknowledge what a great asset we have in the cars that currently exist (there are nearly 1.5bn of them worldwide). In terms of manufacture, these cars have paid their environmental dues and, although it is sensible to reduce our reliance on them, it would seem right to look carefully at ways of retaining them while lowering their polluting effect. Fairly obviously, we could use them less. As an environmentalist once said to me, if you really need a car, buy an old one and use it as little as possible. A sensible thing to do would be to speed up the development of synthetic fuel, which is already being used in motor racing; it's a product based on two simple notions: one, the environmental problem with a petrol engine is the petrol, not the engine and, two, there's nothing in a barrel of oil that can't be replicated by other means. Formula One is going to use synthetic fuel from 2026. There are many interpretations of the idea but the German car company Porsche is developing a fuel in Chile using wind to power a process whose main ingredients are water and carbon dioxide. With more development, it should be usable in all petrol-engine cars, rendering their use virtually CO2-neutral.

Increasingly, I'm feeling that our honeymoon with electric cars is coming to an end, and that's no bad thing: we're realising that a wider range of options need to be explored if we're going to properly address the very serious environmental problems that our use of the motor car has created. We should keep developing hydrogen, as well as synthetic fuels to save the scrapping of older cars which still have so much to give, while simultaneously promoting a quite different business model for the car industry, in which we keep our new vehicles for longer, acknowledging their amazing but overlooked longevity. Friends with an environmental conscience often ask me, as a car person, whether they should buy an electric car. I tend to say that if their car is an old diesel and they do a lot of city centre motoring, they should consider a change. But otherwise, hold fire for now. Electric propulsion will be of real, global environmental benefit one day, but that day has yet to dawn.

**\*\*\*Please NOTE**

This article was amended on 5 June 2023 to describe lithium-ion batteries as lasting "upwards of 10 years", rather than "about 10 years"; and to clarify that the figures released by Volvo claimed that greenhouse gas emissions during production of an electric car are "nearly 70% higher", not "70% higher". It was further amended on 7 June 2023 to remove an incorrect reference to the production of lithium-ion batteries needing "many rare earth metals"; to clarify that a reference to "trucks" should instead have been to "heavy trucks for long distance haulage"; and to more accurately refer to the use of such batteries in these trucks as being a "concern", due to weight issues, rather than a "non-starter".

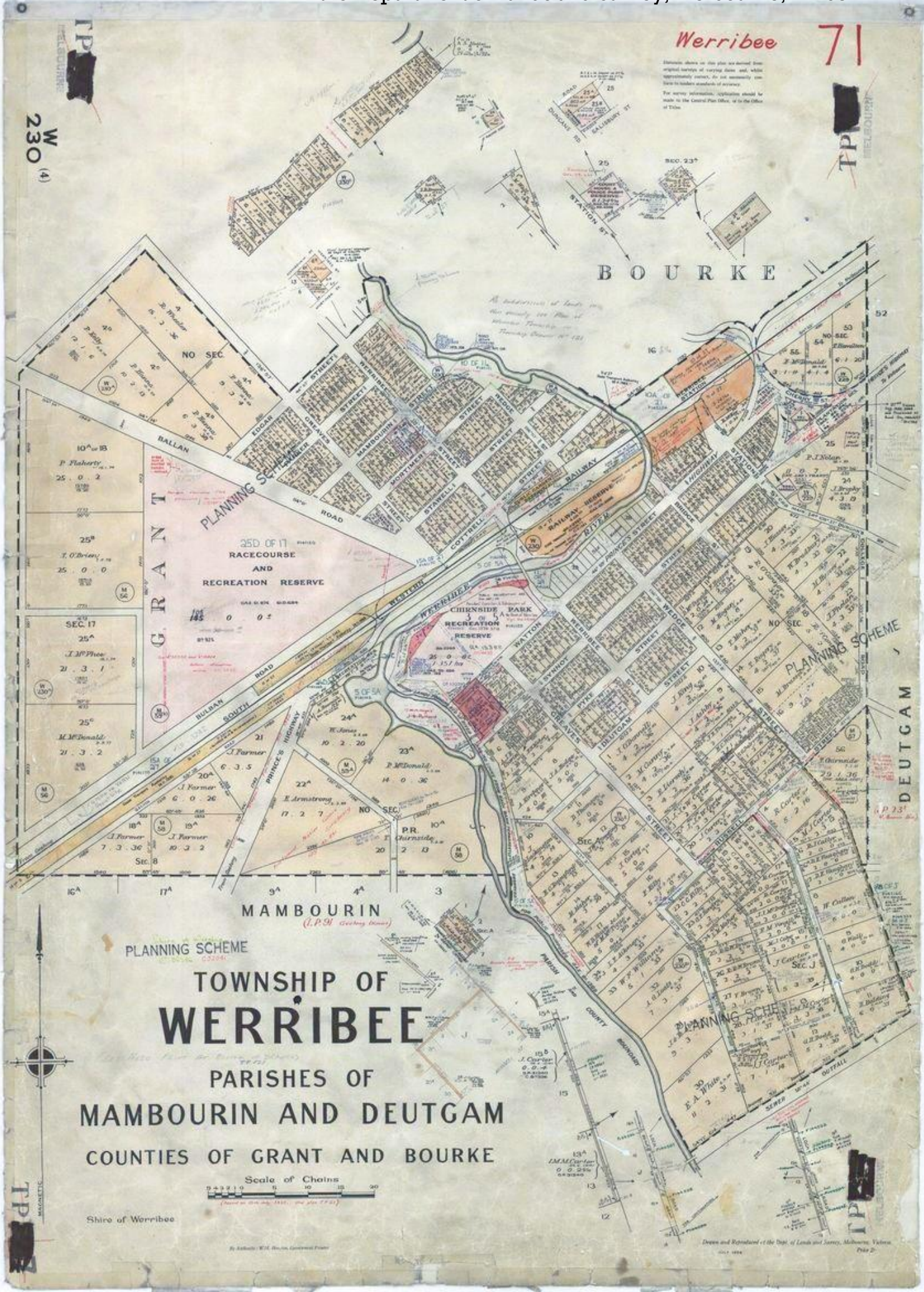


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|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Colin and Shirley  | VZ Calais      | Charlie and Lyn    | FJ Holden  |
| Heather and Mark   | VL Walkingshaw | Rod and Jenny      | 66 Mustang |
| Ronnie and Connie  | HQ Ute         | Nick Calleja       | FB Holden  |
| Trevor and Wassana | Corvette       | John and Elizabeth | Modern     |
| Werner Bernhardt   | Modern         | Bill Flaherty      | Modern     |
| Colin Harris       | 34 Ford Tudor  | Alf Schembri       | Modern     |
| Braeden Harris     | 73 Nova        | Brian Cameron      | Modern     |





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