

# Auto Torque

## The Official Newsletter of The Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge

Website address: autocollectorsmurraybridge.com

#### JUNE/JULY 2016 edition











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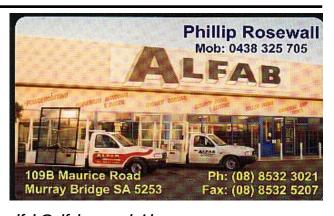


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#### **AUTO COLLECTORS CLUB**

P.O. BOX 869, MURRAY BRIDGE, 5253

#### **ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS** 2016/17

PATRON	Howard Wright	1 Washington Tce., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 312658
PRESIDENT	John Courtney	52 Torrens Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 324107
VICE PRESIDENT	Claude Minge	65 Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 322229
SECRETARY ASST SECRETARY	Brenda Cowie Maurice Emmerson	79 Tumbella Dve., MURRAY BRIDGE 361 Summit Rd., NAIRNE	85 310151 83 886002
TREASURER ASST TREASURER	Ricky Kaak Jeff Martin	77 Kallina Dve., MYPOLONGA 22 Leslie St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 354195 85 310646
REGISTRAR ASST REGISTRARS	Darren Fountain Kym Schubert	31 Industry Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE 56 Old Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE (Mob)	85 322178 0400773110
	Jamie Brine	39 Doecke Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE (a.h. ONLY!)	85 310174
Emergency Registrar	Alan Hagger	MYPOLONGA	85 354077
VEHICLE INSPECTORS	Roy Bretag	9 Edwards St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 325791
	Graham Edwards	113 Standen St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321175
RUN COORDINATOR ASST RUN COORD.	Claude Minge Jan Hall	65 Swanport Rd, MURRAY BRIDGE 23 Ida St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 322229 85 322726
PUBLICITY	Graham Edwards	113 Standen St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321175
MEMBERSHIP	Neil Schubert	62 Hill St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 323933
POINTS SECRETARY	Jill Matschoss	Unit 53, 51 Owl Dve., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 323548
EDITOR ASST EDITOR	Lyn West Tom West	55 Verdun Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE 55 Verdun Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 326908 85 326908
COMMITTEE	Peter Jennings, Murray Lutz, Roy Bretag, Kym Cooper, Jan Hall and Jeff Martin.		

CHRISTMAS PARADE FLOAT COMMITTEE: to be formed.

**HALL REPS.** John Courtney and Bruce Phillips

FEDERATION REP.John CourtneyAUDITORSandra BurgessLIBRARIANPeter KielyPROPERTY OFFICERBruce PhillipsCLUB HISTORIANElaine BretagPUBLIC OFFICERBrenda Cowie

Club Fees Membership \$35 (including children up to 16 years)

ALL ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE RELEVANT OFFICER

#### **FOR SALE**

Club Car Badges are available at Club meetings or by contacting Roy Bretag. \$17.50 each.

#### **OUR COVER PICTURES:**

**Main picture:** 1954 International A2 - 160 Army Truck, owned by John and Carol Ali. Vehicle still used by the Army until 1968. It then went to Wagga Wagga Bushfire Brigade, where it was fitted with a 5000 litre tank and was used as a back-up tanker by the Fire Brigade.

**Other pictures (clockwise from top left)**: Map reading light on dashboard; inside the cab; fuel tank; seating for transport of troops in back.

<sup>\*\*(</sup>No change to fees for 2016/17, making membership in our Club most cost effective)\*\*

### Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	WHO, WHAT, WHERE
June 26 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Biggest Morning Tea Run	Lyn & Tom West
July 5 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	8:00 p.m. – Clubrooms
July 12 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m. – Clubrooms
July 17 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Pub Lunch (Woodside)	John & Vicki Courtney
July 31 <sup>st</sup> (Sunday)	Gawler Car Club Visit	Claude & Liz Minge
August 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	8:00 p.m. – Clubrooms
August 18 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Boating Theme Run	Graham & Maureen Edwards
August 21 <sup>st</sup> (Sunday)	Mallala Run (proposed)	Peter & Pat Jennings
September 1 <sup>st</sup> (Thursday)	Drive Your Old Vehicle Day / Economy Run	Neil & May Schubert
September 6 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	8:00 p.m. – Clubrooms
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wave Generator Run	Bob & Lyn Hunter
(Wednesday)		
September 24 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Murray Bridge Show	To be advised
October 4 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	8:00 p.m. – Clubrooms
October 14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>	Riverland Run	Roy & Elaine Bretag
October 29 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	MB Racing Club – Long Riders (proposed)	To be advised
October 23 <sup>rd</sup> (Sunday)	Callington Show	Brenda Cowie
November 1 <sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	8:00 p.m. – Clubrooms
November 8 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m. – Clubrooms
November 9 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	Ladies' Day Run (Jurlique)	Brenda Cowie
November 19 <sup>th</sup> (Saurday)	Murray Bridge Pageant	To be advised
November 20 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Mal Fountain Run	To be advised
December 6 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	8:00 p.m. – Clubrooms
December 7 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	Cherry Picking Run	Roy and Elaine Bretag
December 11 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Christmas Picnic	Palmer
2017 – Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> (Friday)	Pizza Night	John & Vicki Courtney

### Other Events of Interest

June 11-13 <sup>th</sup>	PADARC RALLY (Pt Pirie)	Info in April issue
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	2016 All Ford Day	Info in April issue
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Bay to Birdwood	
October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Loxton Mallee Run	Info in April issue

(For more information on any of the above, please contact the Club Secretary).

#### PROCEDURES FOR ORGANIZING CLUB RUNS

Anyone organizing a Club Run is responsible for supplying relevant information about the coming event for the Newsletter prior to the event. They are also responsible for a Run report for the Newsletter following the event. (This can be delegated to another person – but the organizer is responsible for getting the article to the editor). Please note that there are available spaces, in the Club Calendar, for members to offer their services in organizing a Club Run.

#### DEEPEST SYMPATHY

goes to **Des and Joy Ayres**, on the sad passing of Des' brother, **Bob**, during the early part of May, this year.



Also to Neil and May Schubert, who sadly lost Neil's sister, Amilda Stead, aged 96 years, on 25/5/16.

Our heartfelt sympathy and thoughts are with you.

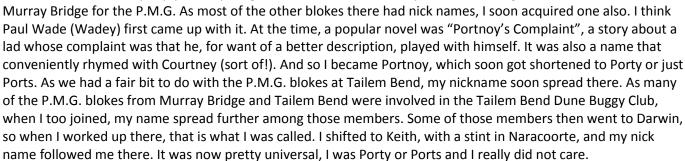
To any of our Club Members who have experienced the loss of loved ones in recent times, we offer our sincere condolences.

## President's Report

G'day everyone.

This is going to be a rather different President's report. It is different because it is mostly about me. Or more accurately, my name. Let me explain.

Back in 1971 a pimply faced young bloke called John Courtney started working in



Now, just to confuse the issue a bit further, many years ago there was a skit on a show on TV (it may have been the "Naked Vicar Show" or similar) where everyone was called "Bruce". So a number of us took this on, we all called each other "Bruce". This worked well, we could not forget each other's names, but it was a bit awkward if we needed to differentiate between each other, so in these situations we became "Porty Bruce", "Jim Bruce", "Norm Bruce", etc. It was a relatively small group of us who adopted this, but we still do it from time to time, so don't let it confuse you.

So, move forward many years and I joined the Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge. There was only one other member at that time who knew me as Porty, so I found it easier to answer to "John". But times have changed and there are now a number of Auto Collectors members who know me as Porty, some, like our new treasurer Ricky, have never known me as anything else. The point of all this is, I don't care what you call me, I am happy for you to continue on as you always have if you want. As they say call me anything you like, but don't call me late for dinner.

Finally, by the time you read this, if you have NOT paid your club fees, you are no longer a member of this club and the DPTI will have been notified and should have commenced cancelling your historic registration. These are the rules, and we have no option but to follow them. Please also remember that unless you have had your Log Book endorsed by the registrars, your vehicle is no longer registered. If in doubt, speak to the registrars. While on the subject of our registrars, a number of members have commented very favourably to me recently on the way their historic registration issues and renewals have been handled. This is a very busy and stressful time of year for our registrars and to see recognition of their efforts by our members is very pleasing. Congratulations to Darren, Kym, Jamie and Alan, our registrars, and to Graham and Roy, the inspectors, well done. It is similarly busy for our treasurer Ricky and assistant Jeff and we must also mention our resident JP, Kevin. Thanks to you all. With any luck, things should quieten down a bit for you all soon!!

So, that will do from me. Happy and safe restoring and historic motoring.

John Courtney (aka Porty, Ports, Bruce or perhaps Porty Bruce)

#### THE ACCMB ENTRIES FOR MOST IMPROVED VEHICLES, 2016/17

If you have a vehicle under restoration and wish to be in the running for the perpetual trophy for "Most Improved Vehicle, 2016/17", **PLEASE REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE/S NOW.** 

New members are eligible and are most welcome to enter their vehicles.

Please note that this is a Club challenge for which a trophy will be presented on our Club Presentation Night in March 2017.

There is no fee for registering your vehicle/s.

Applications are available from your Membership Officer, Neil Schubert – contact 85 323933.



#### FROM THE EDITOR

Hi there,

Well, it seems that I only have to ask and I receive! My plea to Club members for stories about their vehicles has been promptly answered by Allen Wegener. Look out for the story of his Ford Truck at the end of this edition. Many thanks, Allen.

I might gently remind our respected President that this Magazine (and his President's Reports) goes on the world wide web now, so his list of aliases will now be known throughout the globe!

Good Reading and "Stay tuned" - Lyn.

## Please note!

#### **MAGAZINE ARTICLES**

Would members who organize Club Runs please write a report on their run and deliver to Lyn West either by post/hand delivery to the letter box at 55 Verdun Road, Murray Bridge, 5253, or email to <lyntomwest@gmail.com>? Coming events information and any other articles for the Newsletter should be passed on in the same way. To ensure inclusion in the Newsletter, articles should reach the Editor <u>AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR</u> to the August, October or December meetings. Many thanks for your cooperation – Lyn W.

## Coming Events

#### BIGGEST MORNING TEA RUN (26/6/16)

Arrive at the Clubrooms at 10:00 a.m. for a **10:15 a.m.** start. We will be travelling to the Mabbitt's home for morning tea (corner of Thiele and Ross Roads – East side). If you wish you can go direct to the Mabbitt's.

- 10:30 a.m. Biggest Morning Tea of scones, jam and cream, with tea/coffee all provided. Those who wish may make a donation to the "Biggest Morning Tea Cancer Appeal" which will be greatly appreciated.
- There is seating available at the Mabbitt's, but please bring your chairs, just in case. The venue is under cover, but it is cold in June so bring lap rugs if you wish.
- After morning tea, a short Run is on the agenda. We will be visiting the Men's Shed at the Showgrounds. We will be given an address on the workings of the Men's Shed by one of its members and will be able to view the equipment, etc., which is on offer there.
- Still at the Men's Shed, we can stay for a B.Y.O. everything packed lunch. There will be enough seating, tables, etc., for us at the Shed. We will probably finish the Run at about 1:30 p.m.
- Space at the Men's Shed is limited to approx 50-55, so put your name down quickly if you wish to visit.

As this will be a really short Run, it may be an opportunity to bring out your older vehicles if you wish. Please fill in the Run Sheet at the June Meeting or contact :- Tom or Lyn West (85 326908).

#### PUB LUNCH (17/7/16)

This year's Pub Run will be to the Woodside Hotel. There is no set menu for us, we will be ordering from their normal "a la carte" menu which is quite extensive. Schnitzels \$17 Beef, \$18 Chicken, both with chips & salad or mash & vegetables, Ale Battered Fish \$15/\$18 with chips & salad and much more. Copy of the full menu will be available with the attendance sheet at the club meetings. Ordering from this menu will of course slow things down a bit as far as service is concerned, but I am sure we will find something to talk about to pass the time!! As it is a relatively short drive to Woodside and there is nothing planned to do on the way, we will be having a late start (so have a sleep in!!!) and **we will NOT** leave from the clubrooms.

\*\*\*We will be leaving from Totness Park\*\*\* "Where is that?" I hear you ask.

The answer is that it is the **corner of Adelaide Road and Charles Street**. Park in Charles Street or anywhere close by. **We will depart there at 10.30am**, but those of us who would like to start with a coffee and a sticky bun may like to meet at **McCue's Bakery** (just over the road) at **10.00 am**. For our "Hills dwellers", if you want to go straight to the Woodside Hotel, we are booked in for 12 noon, but I

For our "Hills dwellers", if you want to go straight to the Woodside Hotel, we are booked in for 12 noon, but I would appreciate you letting me know that is what you are doing.

Please ensure that you put your names on the list or let me know. We are booked in for 50 people, so first in first served, but of course if you later find you are unable to go, please let me know. Not to do so will prevent someone else from attending. Hope to see you on the run. John & Vicki Courtney 85324107

#### GAWLER CAR CLUB VISIT (31/7/16)

- After consultation with the Gawler Car Club members, it has been decided that they will lunch at the Riverscape Restaurant on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2016, during their visit to Murray Bridge.
- There is an open invitation to any of our members to make your own arrangements to join them if you wish, or to visit the riverfront to view their vehicles. You may like to drive your own historic vehicle for our visitors to inspect and enjoy.
- Any further info required, please contact our Club Run Coordinator, Claude Minge, on 85 322229, or 0408 813436.

## ADVANCE NOTICE BOATING THEME RUN (18/8/16 - THURSDAY)

This Run is still in the planning stages, but the following is an outline of what is planned.

- Morning Tea Cruise (Captain Proud) \$18.00 per head.
- B.Y.O. Lunch (site still to be arranged).
- Boating inspection.
- Look out for further information in the next issue of our Magazine or at coming General Meetings.

Run Organisers – Maureen and Graham Edwards.

## SOUTH COAST - WAVE GENERATOR RUN (14/9/16)

- Leave Clubrooms at 9:00 a.m. SHARP for Myponga Dam, via Strathalbyn and Mount Compass.
- Morning Tea at the Dam Car Park.
- Travel over the Dam Wall to the Lookout on top of the Carackalinga Hill to view the Gulf and the halfsubmerged Generator offshore.
- Travel on to Normanville-Yankalilla-Victor Harbor and lunch at Port Eliot.
- B.Y.O. lunch or purchase it at the Port Eliot Bakery.
- Return home in your own time.

Fill in the Run Sheet at a General Meeting or contact Bob or Lyn Hunter on 85 321603.

#### APOLOGY!

My sincerest apologies go to Myra WRIGHT, whom I mistakenly referred to as Myra HOWARD in the last Magazine. I can only plead a "Senior's Moment" in my defence. It seems that my proof reader needs to claim the same! It just goes to show that, in our minds, we cannot separate the names "Myra and Howard"! – Ed.

## Congratulations!

To

## on her 70<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY

celebrated with her family on

19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.



## In The News

**Auto Collectors Club Murray Bridge** 

#### Car collectors venture east

MEMBERS of the Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge enjoyed an outing to Pinnaroo and across the border into Victoria last month.

The Murray Bridge club, along with members from Bordertown, Murray Mallee and the Riverland car clubs gathered at Pinnaroo for yet another enjoyable weekend with an array of vintage and classic cars and caravans.

The perfect Autumn weather, of cool clear nights and warm, still and sunny days made all the weekend activities more enjoyable for all participants.

Friday night's dinner at the Pinnaroo Hotel was a most enjoyable evening and the meals were delicious.

On Saturday morning club members strolled to the centre of town where ladies visit



IMPRESSIVE: The Pontiac Silver Streak, 1937, owned by M and A Chapman.

the local op shop.

Many treasures including clothing and books were purchased.

This was followed by coffee, cake and conversation at the local bakery.

After lunch 28 vehicles assembled and headed over the border to Victoria to visit a farm 'Upside Downs'.

There, participants viewed

a large collection of vintage tractors (120 in total.)

These had been collected over a period of eight years. The beautiful gardens

surrounding the farmhouse



were a delight to explore and wander through.

The hosts for the weekend, the Murray Mallee Club, provided a scrumptious afternoon tea of scones, cake and biscuits.

On Saturday night, a barbecue dinner was held at the Pinnaroo Oval complex.

Sunday morning games were held at the Pinnaroo Wetland's Park.

The varied games involved eight enthusiastic members from each club endeavoring to be the winners with much laughter and cheering from all members.

Borderlown were the overall winners of the Con-rod Perpetual Trophy for 2016.

-Details: The Auto Collectors Club Murray Bridge was founded in 1972 to bring together local motoring enthusiasts with an interest in classic, vintage and veteran vehicles.

The Club meets monthly in Murray Bridge and new member inquiries and visitors are always welcome.

Up coming events: Bowhill Engineering Run, June 5; Pub Run, July 17

This article reproduced by courtesy of The Murray Valley Standard, Tuesday May 31, 2016.

## Corner Clinic!

Have heard that several of our members have been experiencing challenges with their working systems of late and have been in for check-ups, tune-ups, re-bores and replacements of parts, etc. We hope that all are on the mend and returning to tip-top running condition by now.





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## Run Reports

#### PINNAROO CAMPOUT (23 & 24/4/16)

Wow! What a great weekend-full of fun, relaxation, good company and making new friends.

Some members arrived at Pinnaroo between 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Friday. We didn't arrive until 8:00 p.m., when our members were coming out of the Hotel after enjoying a great meal on a very cool Friday night.

At 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning we walked to the main street. First stop was the Op Shop where there were plenty of "new" things to look over. Members scored books, bags, clothing and jewellery and it wasn't just the women who were buying – the men were in there as well. Next stop was the bakery for morning tea. It is a popular place and there was a bit of a wait for our coffees.

At 12:30 p.m., we drove to the football oval entrance and assembled, after which we then went on tour to Greg and Michelle Thomas' farm, named "Ups and Downs". About 25 cars arrived at the farm. Greg addressed the group and told us that he had collected 130 tractors over 7 or 8 years (but there is not one of them going). We also learned that he runs lots of sheep on his 10,000 acres. We then proceeded to the shed and paddock to look at his collection of tractors. He has Fordsons, Oliver, McCormich-Deering, Case, Hart, Fordson Major, Chamberlain,



130 Tractors in Greg & Michelle's collection at "Ups and Downs"

Massey Ferguson, John Deer, International, Massey Harris and many more.



Michelle's lovely garden

We returned to the Caravan Park for relaxation time together.

On Saturday night we gathered at the shed for a BBQ tea and more socialising. Everyone pooled their salads and sweets. It was warm in the shed and there was a fire outside. Many jokes were told.

On Sunday morning we travelled to the Wetlands at 9:00 a.m. where we

The ladies viewed Michelle's lovely garden of shrubs, flowers and a veggie garden. The outside toilet was very interesting. Unfortunately, we didn't get to meet Michelle as she was out with her daughter at Netball, but we did enjoy a lovely afternoon tea of scones with jam and cream – thanks to the Murray Mallee Club.



Afternoon Tea at Greg & Michelle Thomas' place. Back from left: June Mabbitt, Arlene Chapman, Terry Mabbitt and Ted & Ruth Julian. Front: Elaine & Roy Bretag, Mike Chapman on far right relax with members from other Clubs.

first had Tappet Cover races and then moved on to the games for the Conrod Trophy.

1<sup>st</sup> Game = contestants had to throw 3 golf balls into a bag (I think a golf club was used to practise a hole-in-one). Scores of 50, 75, 100.

2<sup>nd</sup> Game = egg and spoon races.

3<sup>rd</sup> Game = horse and jockey races.

4<sup>th</sup> Game = quoits.

Murray Mallee Club also provided morning tea (plenty of leftovers) after the games.

The Conrod Trophy was won by the Bordertown Club with 12 members participating. There was a three-way tie for second by the Murray Mallee Club (17 members), the Murray Bridge Club (12 members) and the Riverland Club (12 members).

Everyone enjoyed the weekend, so please come along next year and join in the fun. A special mention goes to Ron and Fina Jellett, new members who came and had fun with our group. Also attending were Terry and June Mabbitt, Roy and Elaine Bretag, Ted and Ruth Julian, Mike and Arlene Chapman and Alan and Marlene Hagger.

We were favoured with a beautiful, sunny weekend. Next year, it is the MB Auto Collectors Club's turn to organise a place to visit, afternoon tea and the games.

(Thanks go to the Haggers for organising this popular weekend. Thank you, Marlene, for this report.-Ed.)

#### RACING CARS & A MOUNTAIN RUN (15/5/16)

Despite the forecast of possible showers, a large number of cars left the Clubrooms right on time. The first stop was at Nairne at Bythorne Park. The chairs came out and it was morning tea time. The clouds were starting to disperse and the sun began to shine through.

Our next stop was at Peter Green's shed in Woodside. Not a large number of cars on show, but there were Mustangs,



Morning Tea at Bythorne Park, Nairne.

Monaros and a Chevy II, plus hundreds of posters and photos of past car racing events – all very interesting.



Maurice Emmerson addresses the group before heading "up the mountain".

With the Chocolate and Cheese factories just across the road, many members stocked up with goodies they were sure to enjoy before proceeding to Stephenson Park in Mount Barker. The rotunda soon became full of Club members enjoying their lunch.

After lunch, we travelled out to the mountain. The car park was quickly filled and yours truly gave a short talk on the area and experiences of growing up and living there for the last 68 years. Then many members made the short, but steep, walk

to the top and enjoyed the most wonderful views.

Thank you all for your attendance.

(Run organised and report written by Maurice Emmerson. Many thanks Maurice (and Jan) – a very successful event. – Ed.)

#### MENINGIE RUN (22/5/16)

Left clubrooms just after 9-00am, drove down the main street, over the Bridge, onto Tailem Bend and before we arrived at Meningie it got very windy.

The cars assembled at the Cheese Factory Museum. It was Meningie's 150th Anniversary. Firstly, everyone walked to the back shed to buy tickets for their lovely scones with jam and cream, tea and coffee.

Then we moved on to the displays of many crafts that were being made - crocheting, bobbin lace, handweaving, spinners, bead making and animals made out of wool.

We enjoyed the display of tractors and stationary engines and watching the ropes-making. There was a horse which needed a name. It cost one dollar to suggest a name for it. The winner was Ivan Frahn who named the horse "Last Chance" - he won \$10-00.

Many people went for a ride on the Caterpillar during the day.

A tempting array of BBQ patties and sausages with onion, coleslaw and also lovely hot chicken or pumpkin soup was available for lunch (no Fish).

It was starting to get cold with a few showers so the raffles were drawn. Trevor Jericho won  $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1\right$ 

a box of goodies.

Then everyone made their way home. It was a very enjoyable day.

(Many thanks to the Haggers for organising this Run and to Marlene for the Report. Pictures are kindly supplied by Trevor Wehrman – Ed.)









#### **CLUB CLASSIFIEDS**

#### May Meeting

#### Sell:

• BMW K100 Motor Cycle. On Gumtree Kevin 85322150

#### "CAR TORQUE" (Members' contributions)

### The History and Restoration of 1948 Ford 3.5 ton Truck (by Allen Wegener)

The 1948 Model Ford Truck was first shown at the Royal Adelaide Show in August, 1948. I was there with my father and remember being told of the changes from the previous model, they being that it was now fitted with a larger 32.5 HP Mercury motor and that the distributor was now mounted on top of the motor, instead of at the front between the belts.

This truck was driven from Geelong (Vic.) to Adelaide by David Stock, son of A.J. Stock, Ford agent of Campbelltown, Adelaide, in late 1948. The A.J. Stock firm were body builders, so they built the tray and fitted it to the truck. My father took delivery of the truck on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1949. I was in my second year at Birdwood High School when my father took delivery of it. I was boarding in Birdwood, so he stopped off there to show me the shiny new truck, which was a complete surprise.

My father had a 4-wheel trailer built by Bill Dahl of Mannum some time during the war. A chassis from a Willys Knight car was cut into two sections – one section for rear and one for the front, which had a turntable attached. A wooden shaft was fitted for two horses to pull the trailer. A platform with a seat was fitted at the front end for a driver and a passenger. An A-frame was also made to fit to the front end so that it could be pulled by a tractor or truck. A set of double deck hurdles was made the following year so it could be used to cart sheep and/or cattle. The frame, tray and hurdles were made from timber.

The truck did lots of trips to Adelaide to bring back loads of superphosphate, which was previously sent by rail to Milendella. The first year that the truck was used was for the 1950 harvest. It had a spring-assisted manual bag loader attached to the rear end of the tray. The bag was placed on the loader and then heaved up onto the tray. After loading 5 bags, you would stack them away and then repeat the process until you had a full load.

The second year a new hydraulic automatic bag loader was fitted. This really speeded up the time it took to put on a load and it was also a lot easier. To load the trailer, the truck would be placed next to the row of sewn bags. The trailer was then placed on the opposite side of the truck and loaded first. A total

of 30 bags was put on the trailer and 70 bags on the truck. I could load both in



1949 Ford Truck (70 bags) 4 Wheel Trailer (30 bags)
Milendella Railway Station (Grain Agent was Clem Stevens)

15 minutes. The grain was carted either to Sanderston or Milendella Railway Station.

My father built a wooden double deck stock crate for the truck and then the truck and trailer were used to cart sheep to Mount Pleasant markets and the truck only to cart sheep and lambs to Gepps Cross Abattoirs market. It was also used to cart superphosphate from Port Adelaide every year up to 1963.

The truck had sideboards attached so it was also used to cart many loads of gravel from Sanders Creek. This was loaded by hand with a pick and shovel. The gravel was used to make concrete posts, floors and walls. In the mid-fifties, my father bought a Horndraulic front end loader and a 3 pt. linkage kit (equipped with live hydraulics) which was then fitted to a Massey Harris 744d tractor. This made loading the truck much easier work.

In 1958, my father bought a New Holland 68 automatic hay-baler. We had an exceptional crop of oats that year and made 10,000 bales of hay. The bales were stacked (by a person on a sledge towed behind the baler) into heaps of 12 and dropped off by giving it a push. The bales were then loaded onto the truck with the G. Well loader. We were still carting hay in February. We also made a couple buns? of silage in a pit we dug and then covered the silage with soil.

I bought the truck from my father in 1964 and used it to cart bagged grain to Sherlock Railway Station. In 1969, silos were built in the area (Peake and Coomandook) so I bought a bulk bin and then switched to handling all the grain in bulk. I bought another truck (a bit bigger) in 1967, so then used both trucks for a few years, after which the old Ford was retired to a shed to collect dust and rust and rot.

When I sold the farm in 2002, the Ford Truck was transported to Murray Bridge, together with the 1965 XP Falcon sedan and the 1966 HR Holden ute. I commenced pulling the truck apart in May of 2005. Everything except the motor, gearbox and differential was taken apart. Most of the truck except the doors was sandblasted and then immediately painted with etch primer by Lower Murray Grit Blasting. I used paint stripper on the doors. The panels and cab were repaired and primed by a young guy from Tailem Bend and the final paint job done by Bridge Paint and Panel of Murray Bridge.

The chassis had to be pulled apart (due to rust in the double channel sections) and rusted sections cut out and replaced. The tray, crossbearers, combing rails and loading rack timbers all had to be replaced.

I primed and painted all the timber and also the chassis, wheels, axles, etc. The electrical system was all converted to 12 volt. A new seat was built and the backrest recovered. The internal cab lining was all replaced and a new floor mat made. This was done by Mr. Horry Collins, a motor trimmer of Murray Bridge. The rubber parts of the cab were supplied by Rare Spares and sourced from the U.S.A.



Allen Wegener with his "Old Faithful" Ford Truck as it is now.

This covers most of the history of "old faithful". Job completed, it was registered for road use on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

(Well done, Allen Wegener, for this interesting account of the history of your Ford Truck. I am sure readers will enjoy and appreciate this article immensely. – Ed.)

#### 00000000000000000000000000000

When I visited John and Carol Ali's home, in order to take the photographs for the front cover of this issue, I spied a very smart-looking little tractor shining in the sunlight. I thought it was well worth photographing for inclusion in the Magazine and here it is, pictured at right.

When I asked about it, I discovered that it is, in fact, Carol's tractor – a 1942 FARMALL A. 17000 of them were built in the USA between 1939 and the late 1940s. This one was used as a boatlaunching tractor before the Ali's got hold of it and had it beautifully restored. - Ed.



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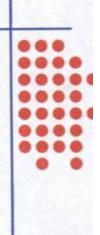
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