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The Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge

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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018 edition







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AUTO COLLECTORS CLUB

P.O. BOX 869, MURRAY BRIDGE, 5253

ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS 2017/18

PATRON	Howard Wright	1 Washington Tce., MURRAY BRIDGE	0428155476
PRESIDENT	Claude Minge	65 Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 322229
VICE PRESIDENT	John Courtney	52 Torrens Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 324107
SECRETARY ASST SECRETARY	Brenda Cowie 79 Tumbella Dve., MURRAY BRIDGE 85 310151 (Position still to be filled)		
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	12 Old Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	
VEHICLE INSPECTORS	Roy Bretag	9 Edwards St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 325791
	Graham Edwards	113 Standen St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321175
RUN COORDINATOR	Jan Hall	23 Ida St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0438607116
PUBLICITY	Graham Edwards	113 Standen St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321175
MEMBERSHIP	Neil Schubert	62 Hill St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 323933
POINTS SECRETARY	Val Wade	7 Bywaters Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 310987
EDITOR ASST EDITOR	Lyn West Tom West	55 Verdun Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE 55 Verdun Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 326908 85 326908

COMMITTEE Murray Lutz, Kym Cooper, Jan Hall, Jeff Martin, Bruce Phillips and Maurice Emmerson.

CHRISTMAS PARADE FLOAT COMMITTEE: to be formed.

HALL REPS. Deidre Kitto and Darren Fountain

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: 1977 Chrysler CL Charger Coupe, belonging to Kim and Leanne Cooper. (Photo supplied by Kim

Cooper).

Bottom left: Tyler (left) and Oakley Edwards with the Christmas tree which they decorated for the Christmas

Picnic.

Bottom right: 1927 Chevrolet Capitol Truck, recently having been completely restored by Trevor (and Deirdre)

Kitto and enjoying its debut outing with the Club. Congratulations, Trevor – it's a beautiful piece

of work. (Latter two photos kindly supplied by Graham Edwards.)

^{**(}No change to fees for 2017/18, making membership in our Club most cost effective)**

Calendar of Events

TE	EVENT	WHO, WHAT, WHERE
February 9 th (Friday)	Cruise Night	Swanport Reserve
February 18 th (Sunday)	Sausage Sizzle	Terry & June Mabbitt
March 6 th (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.
March 13 th (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
March 24 th (Saturday)	Presentation Dinner	To be advised
April 3 rd (Tuesday)	Annual General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.
April 10 th (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:00 p.m.
April 28 th /29 th (w/end)	Pinnaroo Campout	Alan & Marlene Hagger

Other Events of Interest

February 18 th (Sunday)	M/B Rotary Club Swap Meet	Info this issue
February 18 th (Sunday)	All American Day Car Show	Info this issue
March 4 th (Sunday)	"Cars and Coffee" (Murray Bridge)	Coles Car Park – 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.
March 25 th (Sunday)	Booleroo Ctre Steam & Traction Rally	Info this issue
April 1 st (Sunday)	"Cars and Coffee" (Murray Bridge)	Coles Car Park – 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.
April 7 th -8 th (w/end)	Power of the Past	Info this issue
April 8 th (Saturday)	Gawler to Barossa V & V Run	Info this 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.

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi there,

Well, Christmas is done and dusted once again and it is now time to say "A Happy New Year, everyone! Hope it is a good one for you all." We spent a very pleasant Christmas Day with our family and were asleep in bed when the New Year arrived!

Our first Magazine for 2018 has its usual information on Coming Runs and events, plus the reports from recent outings. Because of our "recess" over Christmas and the New Year, there is a bit less to report on, so I have had to create a "fill in" page or two. Hope that you find the amusing verse and the article on "The History of the Car Radio" in the last pages of this issue of interest.

<u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS:</u> You should receive a new "Membership Renewal" form with this Magazine. If you do NOT receive one, please contact Ricky Kaak. Forms for members who do not receive hard copies of the Magazine will be posted out if they are not collected at the February General Meeting. That's it from me, for now.

Good Reading and "Stay tuned" - Lyn.

Please note!

MAGAZINE/WEBSITE 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? Also, please send same to our Webmaster, Rhonda Scarman, autocollectorsmb@gmail.com for inclusion on the Club Website. 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 AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR to the April meeting. Many thanks for your cooperation — Lyn W.

President's Report

2017 is now history! I trust it was a "good year" for you all - by a "good year", I mean if you have ticked something off your 2017 list of "things to do", then you should be smiling. For Liz and myself our big one on the 2017 "to do list", was our kitchen renovation and extension. Like most projects, it grew with our ideas and innovations as it progressed from



being simply lines on many pieces of paper; then the demolition of walls and windows in May 2017, to being a completed project in December - just in time for Christmas. The culmination of many months of work is now thankfully ticked off our "to do list" and we are very happy with the outcome. Now it's time to focus on our next project.

From our building project, we could draw some parallels to the Auto Collectors' Clubrooms at Johnstone Park. There have been some ideas floated as to the future requirements of the clubroom - on what may be desirable and achievable. It does take a considerable amount of time to finalise ideas, even more time to obtain necessary consents and funding and then to finally progress to the actual laying of bricks and mortar. So for now, we can focus on ideas for the clubroom and of course, the practicality and feasibility of those ideas coming to fruition. Quite simply, we need to consider and plan for the future.

For those who have made "New Year's resolutions", I wish you good luck in achieving whatever they may be. Perhaps "good luck" is the wrong terminology to use and what would be more appropriate would be "stay focussed and determined to make those new year resolutions a reality".

Please remember: Presentation Night - Saturday March 24th 2018.

Regards Claude

News from Other Clubs

The annual Murray Bridge Rotary Swap Meet is on 18th February 2018 beginning at 6am. Entry fee is \$5 per adult (buyers & sellers) Children free. Call John for more information on 0428132889 Silent auction Morris Minor – Call John for more information (see pictures)

<u>All American Day Car Show</u> – Sunday Feb. 18th, 2018 – Tilley Reserve, Hancock Rd., Surrey Downs. Open to public at 10:00 a.m. Adults \$7, children u/14 free. Enquiries from Event Director, Adrian, at 08 82649556.

Power of the Past – 4th & 5th March (Sat & Sun) – Mt. Barker Oval. 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday; 7:00 a.m. to 3:p.m. Sunday. A working display featuring New way engines, Volvo Cars, Ford Commercials, Aerial Motor Cycles, Howard Tractors and Products. Run by the Adelaide Hills Motor Restorers Club. Entries close 2nd March, 2018. **Enquiries to Peter Templer 0417 081 502**.

Booleroo Centre Steam and Traction Rally, 25th March, 2018. Booleroo Centre Oval. Display of restored Vet & Vintage tractors, steam and traction machines, stationary engines, farm implements and blacksmithing. More info at Pt Pirie Reg. Tourism & Arts Centre – phone 1800 000 424 or 08 8667 2185.

<u>Gawler to Barossa Veteran and Vintage Run: 8/4/18.</u> For vehicles up to and including 1930 – motorcycles and commercials included. \$10 entry fee (includes morning tea). Enquiries:- Entries, David Prest (0438 112 266) or wvrun@gawlercarclub.com: Run Director, Geoff (mob. 0437 689 973 or work 8284 7095: Email, wvrun@gawlercarclub.com: Website, www.gawlercarclub.com.



1959 Model Previous owner says all it needs is fuel to run. WILL be sold on the day



ASBESTOS IN MOTOR VEHICLES – KNOW YOUR OBLIGATIONS

The Australian Border force (ABF) is reminding car enthusiasts and people who import motor vehicles and parts that Australia has zero tolerance for asbestos. Products with any level of asbestos, regardless of age, are prohibited for import into or use in Australia. It is the responsibility of importers to ensure that imported goods do not contain asbestos.

Since 2003, the Australian government has prohibited the importation of goods that contain any asbestos, and placed a complete ban on the domestic manufacture and use of all types of asbestos and products containing asbestos. As part of the Government's asbestos prohibition, the ABF actively targets products sustpected of containing asbestos.

Recently, the ABF has detected asbestos in a number of motor vehicles and parts, including brake pads and gaskets. Recent detections include a 1981 Chevrolet Corvette (brake pads, water pump and gasket), a 1963 ford Falcon (gasket) and the brake pads of golf buggies, an electric scooter, a 1954 BSA Bantam motorcycle and a 1971 Mazda RX-2.

It doesn't matter how old the vehicle is, or what type it is – if we suspect it may contain asbestos, we will request assurances from the importer to ensure that it doesn't. In a number of countries, there are few to no restrictions on the use and supply of asbestos. Local standards in some countries may even classify goods as 'asbestos-free' when low levels of asbestos are actually present. Many products containing asbestos can be ordered on the internet and will often claim to be 'asbestos-free', even though they have some asbestos content. As a result, asbestos can be unintentionally and unknowingly imported into Australia, even in new products.

Our activities are not designed to impose undue inconvenience or cost to car importers. Targeting, stopping and testing high-risk goods is an important part of protecting importers and the wider community from the significant dangers of asbestos. We are also focused on ensuring importers are aware of their obligations so we can be assured that goods don't contain asbestos before they reach Australia.

Goods held at the border for asbestos testing can mean delays and significant costs to importers, including storage of the goods while testing is conducted. The potential for these additional costs can be reduced by ensuring your motor vehicles do not contain asbestos before they arrive in Australia.

If you are thinking of importing a motor vehicle or part, find out about the assurances you need and requirements for testing for asbestos at www.border.gov.au/asbestos.

(This article was kindly brought to our notice by John Courtney – Ed.)

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Goes to **Aileen and Murray Lutz** (and family), on the sad loss of Aileen's brother, Robert, who passed away on 28/11/17.

We offer our sincerest condolences, as we do to any other members who may have experienced the recent loss of a loved one or friend.



THE LATEST ON OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

The Provisional Members of February 2017 who have, in the past 12 months, met with our Club's criteria and are now eligible for Full Membership are:-

Dennis and Gail Gullickson of Murray Bridge

Congratulations to you both and we look forward to your company and continued support of our Club.

Our newest Provisional Members for 2017 are:-

Peter & Meg Stephens of Mt Pleasant
 Colin & Raelene Wegener of Callington
 1987 Daimler Benz Bus
 1962 Holden EK Sedan

A warm welcome is extended to you all and we look forward to enjoying your company at our Club functions and outings in the future.

John Courtney for Neil Schubert (Membership Officer).





POSITIONS VACANT

<u>Twin Bridges Rally</u> (TBR) Coordinators, Maureen, Graham, Elaine, Roy, Treasurer & Committee Ricky and Neil have indicated to the ACCMB Committee on 14-11-17 (ACCMB committee fully agreed with the training of new blood) of their intentions to step down from their respective roles after the 8th Biennial 2019 Twin Bridges Rally – having then served this role for 6yrs as coordinators, and 4 years as Treasurer/Committee.

We feel that it is now time for us to train new people for the future, so as to ensure that the TBR continues on into the future, ensuring new ideas by new people will add colour, variance and contrast to any future events.

Anyone interested would serve with the present coordinators & committee for the next 2 years right up to and including the 2019 TBR on October 18^{th} - 19^{th} 20^{th} .

Regular monthly meetings in preparation for the 2019 TBR will commence September 2018.

<u>Please consider seriously</u> joining this GREAT team for a well tried and proven event, so that the TBR commenced by Brenda, Les, June, Terry, Lyn and Bob some 13 years ago will live on.

Should there be no volunteers forthcoming, 2019 TBR would more than likely be the last.

Do we as the ACCMB with some 300 members really want that ??

For further information contact **Maureen, Graham, Elaine, Roy, Ricky or Neil** and make a time to sit down and discuss with us, and what's involved in staging this well known event etc.

ALSO

As from May 2018, there will be 2 vacant positions in our Club, namely that of:

EDITOR and ASSISTANT EDITOR

Essential skills include:

- A sense of humour.
- A genuine interest in the ACCMB.
- Being either Male or Female.
- Interested Applicants are invited to obtain further information from the current Editor (Lyn West).
- If required, there will be a training period for the successful applicant, along with backup and support.
- This position is an interesting and rewarding one (even if you know nothing about cars, as has been the case with the current editor).

CRUISE NIGHT (9/2/18)

For our newer members, this is a "cruise", but has nothing to do with boats!!! In our terminology, it means that it is an informal run, where you can come and go as you please. We are going to Swanport Reserve, so come along for a casual get-together, bring your tea, drinks, mosquito repellent, whatever. Come along any time from 5:30 PM.

Directions:- Leave Murray Bridge on Swanport/Jervois Road. Turn left onto Swanport Village Road (shortly after passing under the South Eastern Freeway) and follow this road to Swanport Reserve.

Hope to see you there.

For more info, call John Courtney, 85324107

SAUSAGE SIZZLE (18/2/18)

- Meet at the car club rooms for a 9.30 am departure.
- Brenda and Les Cowie will be your escort to the Murraylands Gem & Mineral Club Rooms at the Palmer oval . Or, if you prefer, you can make your own way to Palmer. Be there about 10 am .
- BYO morning tea Tables & Chairs Cups, Plates, etc.
- Sausages, bread, hot water, tea, coffee etc., will be supplied but bring your own cold drinks and salad, if you require it.
- There will be a guest speaker, who will be talking on S.A National Parks and Camp Hosting.
- Hope you can come along. Please put your name on the Run Sheet for catering purposes.

You can phone Terry or June on Mob .040969252 to register your interest or for further information.

PRESENTATION DINNER (24/3/18)

This year's Annual Presentation Dinner will be held at the Swanport Hotel.

At the time of printing this newsletter, menu choices have not been finalised.

- A two-course meal is planned, for a cost of \$23 p.h. approx.
- Further information will be available at the February and March General Meetings.
- There will be a Run Sheet available at the February and March General Meetings to register your intention to attend.

Anyone wishing to make further enquiries should contact the organisers:- Claude Minge (85 322229) or John Courtney (85 324107).



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (3/4/18)

With this newsletter, you should receive a nomination form for Office Bearers and/or Club Committee members, to be elected at the AGM. Please hand completed forms in at the March meeting or (at the very latest) **prior** to the AGM. Should you not be attending that meeting, you may hand them to our President, Claude Minge, or to a current Committee member.

Please consider taking on a role yourself. We have a great Club and it can be a very worthwhile experience.

PINNAROO CAMPOUT (28TH & 29TH April, 2018)

- Make your way to Pinnaroo on Friday or Saturday morning. (Hope you have booked your accommodation at the Caravan Park, Motel or Hotel.)
- Friday night members go to the Hotel for tea.
- Saturday: Leave the Showgrounds at 1:00 p.m. SHARP.
- Saturday Night: 5:00 p.m. onwards the traditional BBQ tea will be held at the Showgrounds in the cricket shed, as usual. Please bring everything for a barbie (small table, chairs, plates, cutlery, meat, bread, drinks, etc., for yourself), along with a salad and a sweet to pool.
- Sunday: 9:30 a.m. games will be held at the Wetlands Park.

Please come along. It is always a very enjoyable and fun-filled weekend. Join in and make new friends. Contact Alan or Marlene Hagger (ph. 85 354077) for more information or to register your interest.



2016 TROPHY WINNERS PLEASE NOTE:

If you have a perpetual trophy in your possession, it will need to be returned by the March General Meeting, at the very latest. This will allow the necessary time for trophies to be engraved and ready for presentation to this year's winners. If you cannot attend a meeting, please return to Brenda Cowie (85 310151).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

celebrated by

AILEEN & MURRAY LUTZ

On 20/1/2018

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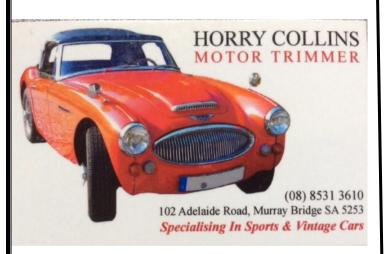
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Run Reports

CHRISTMAS PICNIC (10/12/17)

This year, it was decided to try holding the annual Christmas Picnic at Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge's Clubrooms at Johnstone Park complex, instead of travelling further afield, and that decision appeared to meet with the approval of the members as there was a healthy gathering of about 75 people in attendance.

The urn was going and tea and coffee at the ready when members started to arrive at about 10:00 a.m. and settle in for morning tea along with a chat and catch-up with fellow Club members. The main hall had been decorated in a festive manner and the tables looked very Christmassy with their red tablecloths and glittering pine-cone decorations. The hall had been set up on the previous evening by a little band of volunteers and many thanks go to John & Vicki Courtney, Brenda Cowie, Elaine & Roy Bretag, Jan Hall, Maureen & Graham Edwards and their two grandchildren, Oakley and Tyler (who decorated the Christmas Tree), along with Lyn and Tom West.

At about 10:45 a.m., Vice-President, John Courtney, addressed the group with a welcome, some "house-keeping" and a good joke and then invited anyone who wished to visit the Captain's Cottage Museum, which is adjacent to the Clubrooms, to register their names and pay the nominated entrance fee. There was a really wonderful response and 42 people visited the museum for the best part of an hour. The general consensus and feed-back was that it is a very good museum, which captures the district's history, and is well worth a look.

After the museum visit and back at the Clubrooms, lunch was served at about 12:30 p.m. Brenda Cowie and her small team had everything ready. A variety of cold meats was supplied by the Club and there was a wonderful array of salads supplied by the members and pooled for everyone's enjoyment. It was a delicious meal and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our sincere thanks go to Brenda for her capable handling of the catering side of things.

The afternoon was set aside for some entertainment, followed by the drawing of the raffle prizes.

To begin the entertainment, Lyn West introduced her husband, Tom, and he accompanied himself on the guitar with his own rendition of "This Old Car". Following this, Lyn read out her version of a poem, for which she had gained inspiration from A.B. (Banjo) Paterson's "The Man From Snowy River", and had





Tom West sings his version of "This Old Car"

Who is telling the truth? From left: Terry Mabbitt, Jill Matschoss, Denis Scarman, John Courtney and Jeff Martin.

Vocalists, Vernon Graetz and Peter Geue (on guitar), sang a bracket of three Christmas songs next, after which Lyn handed over to Jill Matschoss to introduce the following item. Jill invited four of the Club's male members, John Courtney, Terry Mabbitt, Denis Scarman and Jeff Martin, to come to the stage. This item took the form of a "Truth or Lies" forum, where each man claimed that a pre-determined object belonged to him and

told his story of why that was so. The fellows were fantastic story-tellers and were very convincing. The audience was given the chance to vote on who was, in fact, the true owner of the object at the end of the item and, you guessed it, they got it wrong! It was a really fun item and was very enjoyable, for performers and audience alike. The afternoon's entertainment was rounded off with a bracket of three Christmas songs sung by Elaine Bretag, Aileen Gueu and Lyn West, with Jill

Matschoss on keyboard. All the items were really well received by the audience and many thanks and hearty congratulations go to all the performers taking part.

John Courtney then conducted the drawing of the raffle prizes, tickets for which had been selling throughout the day. Vicki Courtney, raffle coordinator, assisted and the three minor prizes were won by Deirdre and Trevor Kitto, Shirley and Burnie Hoffman and Mary and Ian Rowley. Viktoria and Wayne Johns won the main prize. Vicki and her little team had done a wonderful job in making up the four Christmas hampers, which looked quite spectacular.



Deirdre Kitto accepts her prize from Raffle coordinator, Vicki Courtney.

Raffles out of the way, it was time for afternoon tea.

Another change in the usual programme for this year was omitting a sweets course from the midday meal. The school of thought was that the wonderful array of afternoon tea contributions, brought by members, was more than sufficient to take the place of fruit salad and ice-cream served after lunch, as has happened in the past. This turned out to be the case, afternoon tea lived up to its excellent reputation and it appeared that everyone wholeheartedly agreed with the reason behind the change.

Eventually, John wound up the annual Christmas Picnic for 2017 by thanking everyone for attending, thanking all those who had a hand in making the event happen, wishing everyone a "Very Merry Christmas" and asking for volunteers to help clean up and return the Clubrooms to its normal state. There was no shortage of volunteers and everything was ship-shape in no time at all.

Everyone who attended enjoyed the day. There were many positive comments and bright smiles on the faces of people as they left. What more could you ask?

(The Christmas Picnic is organised by the ACCMB Committee members. Photos kindly supplied by Graham Edwards and this report written by yours truly – Ed.)

CHERRY PICKING RUN (13/12/17)

Unfortunately, because of exceedingly hot weather on the day, it was necessary to cancel this Run. Club members appreciate the effort put in by Elaine and Roy Bretag to arrange this event, and share in their disappointment at it not being able to take place. – Ed.

PIZZA NIGHT (19/1/18)

To say that I was worried about the weather would be an understatement. The weather report said 44 degrees and I had seen 48.5 degrees in the pergola the day before. However, a slight change was forecast and we often get an evening breeze, so I figured that the worst that could happen would be that we would all sit inside and turn up the air conditioner. Various members put forward solutions

ranging from adding more cans to the esky to war games with water pistols. Some members rang to cancel, but every time that happened, someone else would ring to take their place, so I decided to continue.

I need not have worried at all. The first few to arrive I ushered inside, but we quickly realised that there was a quite cool breeze blowing along the veranda and that, providing one kept out of the sun, it was very pleasant indeed. As the sun got lower and the shade increased, it got better still. And so, the first event on the club calendar for the 2018 year was once again up and running at full steam. The usual very relaxed evening followed with the customary catch up stories and discussions about what everyone got up to over the Festive Season. Great to see new members Marty Purchase and Maria Chandler from Murray Bridge, Ron and Avril Gartrell from Mannum and Colin and Raelene Wegener from Callington joining us. Not so many "interesting" cars parked out the front this year (lack of air conditioning?), but I noticed that the Rowleys, Wests and Mike Chapman did not disappoint, arriving in style in proper vehicles.

The pizzas were again supplied by Pizza Hut, arriving on time to feed the starving hoards, then another batch to make sure everyone had their fill. The customary water melon and pineapple followed to fill any remaining gaps and provide a refreshing finish to the meal.

Some members had a look at the recently completed, but not yet stocked "memorabilia room" (for want of a better description) shed extension, but fortunately no one requested an inspection of the Dodge progress, fortunate because there has been very little progress at all this year. Maybe next year!!!

And so the evening gradually drew to a close, with everyone departing into the night in dribs and drabs. Hope you all had a good time.

(Many thanks to John and Vicki for hosting another popular Club function and for this report – Ed.)



CLUB CLASSIFIEDS

December Meeting

Sale:

- BMW SLI 1977 4 door sedan (6 cyl 3 litre). Excellent condition. Phone Geoff/Cynthia Clothier on 85 321160 or 0429321160.
- Fiat Bambinos for sale. All pre. 1950. One is a ute. 1 quite good, 4 restorable. Lots of spares. Doris and Max Klenke (0414249372).

TEACHING THEM TO DRIVE

"THE SWEETHEART"

To learn to drive the motor, dear, First put the lever into gear, Then push your left foot in like this.

That's fine. Now teacher gets a kiss.

Now, step upon the starter, so; That makes the precious engine go.

Now let your left foot back, like this.

Good! Teacher gets another kiss. Upon the gas you now must step. That fills the engine full of pep. That's great. You are a clever miss –

Here teacher gets another kiss. Now change to second. Now to high.

You do that just as good as I. Now stop the car right here, and then,

We'll do the lesson once again.

"THE WIFE"

First see your car is out of gear. How? By this gear-shift lever here. How can you tell? Why, feel it, see?

The thing is simple as can be. Now step on that to make it start. Great Scott! You'll tear it all apart If you don't take your foot off quick

The second that it gives a kick. Now throw your clutch. For goodness sake!

Your clutch! Your clutch! No, not the brake!

Why? 'Cause I tell you to, that's why.

There, now, you needn't start to cry.

Now pull this lever into low. Step on the gas and start off slow. Look out! You almost hit the fence.

Here, let me drive. You've got no sense.

"BUSY SALESMAN TO NEW DRIVER"

Here's your gas, and there's your spark,

Turn your lights on after dark. Here's your brake emergency; Here it's held in neutral, see? Here it's low and here it's high. That's all. Don't hit a truck.

(These little gems were given to me by Allen Wegener and were taken from "the WA Service Station and Motor Trader". The date of publication is not available, but it is obviously from many long years ago. Thanks, Allen – Ed.)

HISTORY OFTHE CAR RADIO

Seems like cars have always had radios, but they didn't.

Here's the story:

One evening, in 1929, two young men named William Lear and Elmer Wavering drove their girlfriends to a lookout point high above the Mississippi River town of Quincy, Illinois, to watch the sunset. It was a romantic night to be sure, but one of the women observed that it would be even nicer if they could listen to music in the car.

Lear and Wavering liked the idea. Both men had tinkered with radios (Lear served as a radio operator in the U.S. Navy during World War I) and it wasn't long before they were taking apart a home radio and trying to get it to work in a car. But it wasn't easy: automobiles have ignition switches, generators, spark plugs, and other electrical equipment that generate noisy, static interference, making it nearly impossible to listen to the radio when the engine was running. One by one, Lear and Wavering identified and eliminated each source of electrical interference. When they finally got their radio to work, they took it to a radio convention in Chicago. There they met Paul Galvin, owner of Galvin Manufacturing Corporation. He made a product called a "battery eliminator", a device that allowed battery-powered radios to run on household AC current. But, as more homes were wired for electricity, more radio manufacturers made AC-powered radios. Galvin needed a new product to manufacture. When he met Lear and Wavering at the radio convention, he found it. He believed that mass-produced, affordable car radios had the potential to become a huge business. Lear and Wavering set up shop in Galvin's factory, and when they perfected their first radio, they installed it in his Studebaker. Then Galvin went to a local banker to apply for a loan. Thinking it might sweeten the deal, he had his men install a radio in the banker's Packard. Good idea, but it didn't work – Half an hour after the installation, the banker's Packard caught on fire. (They didn't get the loan.)

Galvin didn't give up. He drove his Studebaker nearly 800 miles to Atlantic City to show off the radio at the 1930 Radio Manufacturers Association convention. Too broke to afford a booth, he parked the car outside the convention hall and cranked up the radio so that passing conventioneers could hear it. That idea worked -- He got enough orders to put the radio into production.

(continued on next page)

WHAT'S IN A NAME

That first production model was called the 5T71. Galvin decided he needed to come up with something a little catchier. In those days many companies in the phonograph and radio businesses used the suffix "ola" for their names - *Radiola, Columbiola, and Victrola* were three of the biggest. Galvin decided to do the same thing, and since his radio was intended for use in a motor vehicle, he decided to call it the *Motorola*. But even with the name change, the radio still had problems:

When Motorola went on sale in 1930, it cost about \$110 uninstalled, at a time when you could buy a brand-new car for \$650, and the country was sliding into the Great Depression. (By that measure, a radio for a new car would cost about \$3,000 today.) In 1930, it took two men several days to put in a car radio -- The dashboard had to be taken apart so that the receiver and a single speaker could be installed, and the ceiling had to be cut open to install the antenna. These early radios ran on their own batteries, not on the car battery, so holes had to be cut into the floorboard to accommodate them. The installation manual had eight complete diagrams and 28 pages of instructions.

Selling complicated car radios that cost 20 percent of the price of a brand-new car wouldn't have been easy in the best of times, let alone during the Great Depression – Galvin lost money in 1930 and struggled for a couple of years after that. But things picked up in 1933 when Ford began offering Motorola's pre-installed at the factory. In 1934 they got another boost when Galvin struck a deal with B.F. Goodrich tire (*American spelling*) company to sell and install them in its chain of tire stores. By then the price of the radio, with installation included, had dropped to \$55. The Motorola car radio was off and running. (The name of the company would be officially changed from Galvin Manufacturing to "Motorola" in 1947.)

In the meantime, Galvin continued to develop new uses for car radios. In 1936, the same year that it introduced push-button tuning, it also introduced the Motorola Police Cruiser, a standard car radio that was factory preset to a single frequency to pick up police broadcasts. In 1940 he developed the first handheld two-way radio -- The Handy-Talkie – for the U. S. Army. A lot of the communications technologies that we take for granted today were born in Motorola labs in the years that followed World War II.

In 1947, they came out with the first television for under \$200. In 1956 the company introduced the world's first pager. In 1969 came the radio and television equipment that was used to televise Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon. In 1973 it invented the world's first handheld cellular phone. Today, Motorola is one of the largest cell phone manufacturers in the world.

And it all started with the car radio.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO the two men who installed the first radio in Paul Galvin's car? Elmer Wavering and William Lear, ended up taking very different paths in life.

Wavering stayed with Motorola.

In the 1950's he helped change the automobile experience again when he developed the first automotive alternator, replacing inefficient and unreliable generators. The invention lead to such luxuries as power windows, power seats, and, eventually, air-conditioning.

Lear also continued inventing.

He holds more than 150 patents. Remember eight-track tape players? Lear invented that. But what he's really famous for are his contributions to the field of aviation. He invented radio direction finders for planes, aided in the invention of the autopilot, designed the first fully automatic aircraft landing system, and in 1963 introduced his most famous invention of all, the Lear Jet, the world's first mass-produced, affordable business jet. (Not bad for a guy who dropped out of school after the eighth grade.)

Sometimes it is fun to find out how some of the many things that we take for granted actually came into being!

AND

It all started with a woman's suggestion!!

(I discovered the above article in my "Future Articles" file in my computer when I was looking for something extra to put into the Magazine. It looks like it originally came from the internet, but, as I am not a devotee of using the internet, I suspect someone may have forwarded it to me. Unfortunately, I have no record and no memory of the person concerned. So - my apologies to whomever it was for lack of acknowledgement, but I hope everyone enjoys reading the article. - Ed.)

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