

# Auto Torque

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

Website address: autocollectorsmurraybridge.com

### **DECEMBER 2020 / JANUARY 2021 edition**







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### **AUTO COLLECTORS CLUB**

P.O. BOX 869, MURRAY BRIDGE, 5253

<b>ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS</b>	2020/2021
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PATRON	Bob Hunter	12 Sturt St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321603
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 Paul Geiger	79 Tumbella Dve., MURRAY BRIDGE 59 McHenry St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 310151 82 656991
TREASURER	Jan Hall	23 Ida St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0438607116
ASST TREASURER	Darren Fountain	88 Thomas St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 134292
REGISTRAR	Jamie Brine	12 Old Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE 0408894854(a.h.only)	
ASST REGISTRARS	Kym Schubert	56 Old Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE (Mob)	0400773110
	Darren Fountain	88 Thomas St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 134292
RUN COORDINATOR	Jan Hall	23 Ida St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0438607116
PUBLICITY	Graham Edwards	113 Standen St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321175
MEMBERSHIP	Trevor Wehrman	30 Florence St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0437815782
POINTS SECRETARY	Val Wade	7 Bywaters Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 310987
WEBMASTER	Pieter Kriel	autocollectorsmb@gmail.com 19 McAnaney Rd., LANGHORNE CREEK	85 469292
EDITOR ASST EDITOR	Yvonne Mach Peter Mach	296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE 296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 326024 85 326024
COMMITTEE	Terry Mabbitt, Paul Geiger, Darren Fountain, Bruce Phillips, Peter Mach, & Murray Lutz		

**CHRISTMAS PARADE FLOAT COMMITTEE**: to be formed.

**HALL REPS.** Darren Fountain, Jan Hall and Terry Mabbitt.

**FEDERATION REP.** Jamie Brine **AUDITOR** Sandra Burgess

LIBRARIAN Peter Kiely PROPERTY OFFICER Bruce Phillips

CLUB HISTORIAN Elaine Bretag PUBLIC OFFICER Brenda Cowie

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

\*\*(No change to fees for 2020/21, making membership in our Club most cost effective) \*\*

ALL ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE RELEVANT OFFICER

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

Top: Left - Club Members at Lunch at the Commercial Hotel. Right - Members viewing the vehicles at Ben Finniss premises.

Bottom: Club members enjoying a picnic lunch on Founders Run.

# Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	WHO, WHAT, WHERE
2020		
Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting- CANCELLED	
Dec 6 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Christmas Party - CANCELLED	
2021	No General Meeting in January	
Jan 15 <sup>th</sup> (Friday)	Pizza Night	John & Vicki Courtney
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.
Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> (Friday)	Cruise Night	Jan Hall
Mar 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.
Mar 9th (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Mar 14 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Sausage Sizzle	Terry & June Mabbitt
Mar 24th (Wednesday)	Ladies' Day	Brenda Cowie
Apr 6 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.
April 24 <sup>th</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup> (w/end)	Pinnaroo Campout	Alan & Marlene Hagger
May 4 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.
May 15 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Karoonda Run	J. & V. Courtney, G. & M. Edwards
June 1 <sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.
June 19 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Presentation Dinner	ACCMB Committee
July 6 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Annual General Meeting	Clubrooms – 8:00 p.m.

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

### **MAGAZINE/WEBSITE ARTICLES**

Would members who organize Club Runs please write a report on their run and deliver to Yvonne Mach either by post/hand delivery to the letter box at 296 Adelaide Road, Murray Bridge, 5253, or email to as a word document to <a href="www.yvonnemach@bigpond.com">wvonnemach@bigpond.com</a>. Also, please send same to our Webmaster, Pieter Kriel, <a href="autocollectorsmb@gmail.com">autocollectorsmb@gmail.com</a> 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 next Newsletter, articles should reach the Editor <a href="AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR">AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR</a> to the February meeting. Many thanks for your cooperation – Yvonne.

## President's Report

As we progress towards the end of 2020, I will state the obvious in regards to the year that was. It has been a very different year for us as a car club with some testing times. We have survived! We look forward to 2021!

Rather than talk about 2020 I would like to focus on some different aspects of life and how Murray Bridge has progressed.

On a personal note 2020 marks 50 years since my father and I conducted a funeral at Coober Pedy. I have copied details from an article that was published in the Advertiser newspaper telling the story. I have put together some photos of 2 service stations in Murray Bridge – 1950's and now.

I have also copied some cars for sale adverts from November 2002 which indicate the values of some very collectable cars at the time. The value of these vehicles has escalated dramatically in the past few years.

If anyone else has any photos or history that could be shared amongst our club members please contact our Editor, Yvonne.

Claude Minge

#### **A FUNERAL AT COOPER PEDY 1970**

As funeral directors at Murray Bridge we are at times called upon to arrange funerals at places far from the area we normally cover.

In August 1970 we arranged the funeral of a retired opal from Wellington who wished to be buried at Coober Pedy. We checked the option of flying but the light aircraft that serviced Coober Pedy had made a forced landing a few days prior and was undergoing repairs. A decision was made to use our 1960 Ford Fairlane. Extra fuel was taken in Jerry cans as we needed enough fuel to travel from Port Augusta to Coober Pedy (640 kms of unsealed road). There were 2 petrol suppliers, Pimba and Kingoonya but they were not open 24 hours and we were travelling overnight.

The funeral was arranged for 1.00pm on Saturday. We left 8.00pm on the Friday night, planning to drive through the night. We refuelled at Port Augusta at midnight, where we were told the road Coober Pedy hadn't been graded for 12 months due to the lack of rain. At 2.00am it started raining and continued throughout the night. Progress was slow due to clay sections of the road, some tens of kilometres long, being so slippery that our vehicle slid from one side of the road to the other. There was no other traffic, only the occasional kangaroo. The road in 1970 went through Kingoonya and Mt Eba - a far different route from today.

The road took its toll on the Fairlane- a broken rear shock absorber and a broken engine mount which caused the fan to hit the radiator. Repairs were made with a few metres of fencing wire. We arrived at Coober Pedy about 11.00am on Saturday. The local police officer led us in his 4wd Land Rover to the cemetery, where we found a round grave "dug" by way of a charge of explosives set and the hole blasted. Two planks were laid across the centre- "make sure you step backwards off the planks", was the instruction.

The funeral service was held underground in the Catholic Church and burial completed. We refuelled and repaired the Fairlane and headed back down the track, arriving home at Murray Bridge at lunchtime on Sunday completing a 40-hour return trip of 2000 kilometres.

(Transcript of article in Advertiser supplied by Claude Minge)



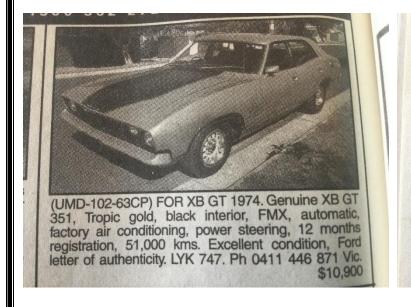
Above -1950's Carnes Garage located on the corner of Adelaide Road and Swanport Road Murray Bridge. This garage was demolished in the mid 1960's and build as Amoco (Frank Turner's) now Caltex (Below).



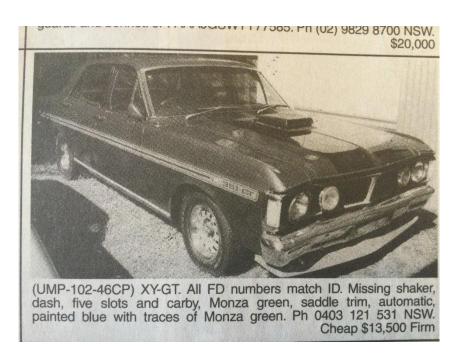


Above. Power Services Ltd garages 1950's, located on Bridge Street, one house from Bridgeport Hotel. Budarick's Garage then Fischer's Motors (Kevin Fischer) BMC, Ford, and Yamaha dealer. Note the petrol pumps on the footpath. Below. Now Government Employment office.









These three car advertisements above were from newspapers dated November 2002. In hindsight any of these vehicles would have been good buying.

(Thank you for all of the above information and pictures which were supplied by Claude Minge. A very different and extremely interesting President's contribution to the magazine.)

#### 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

Welcome to the latest edition of "Auto Torque".

I have been spending a great deal more time outdoors in our yard in recent months, and have witnessed some wonderful things during this time. Nature's wildlife is truly amazing and enthralling. We have had a variety of young, bred in our area. Parents have brought their young to the waterpots to teach them to drink and bathe. Each variety appears to have different methods. Some struggle with the bees that also frequent the water. Occasionally, a lizard will visit, causing consternation. However, the most interesting has been the young wattle bird. Whether it ventured unwittingly out of the nest, or it was blown out in the strong winds, I am not sure, but it was an early excursion to the ground. The parents continued to feed it regularly throughout that day, along with the rest of their young still in the nest. But the most fascinating of all was when, toward nightfall, the parents coached the youngster, making it hop quite a distance and successfully got it into a boxthorn bush, on the neighbouring property. Now, I am not a fan of these bushes generally, but this one served for the purpose of sheltering the youngster over the next few days, whilst its parents continually fed it until it was able to fly, and re-join the rest of its nest companions, taking short flights between the shrubs and trees, and eventually beyond. This was a very pleasing and satisfying result. As I prepare to complete this edition, I realise that without a December meeting and Christmas Party, many of us will not have the chance to catch up together for quite a while. So, I take this opportunity on behalf of our club members, and extend Seasons Greetings, Good Health and New Year Wishes from all of the club members, to all of the club members.

Safe and Happy driving to all. Yvonne

#### THE LATEST ON OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

#### Our New Provisional Member are:

- Neville & Jennifer Appledore 1954 Pontiac Coupe.
- David Negrin 1984 Chevrolet Corvette Sedan.
- Trevor Smith & Jennifer Eldridge 1976 Volkswagen Beetle, 1988 Nissan Vector Sedan.

#### **Achieving Full Membership:**

Adam & Hillary Collogan – 1978 Mercedes Benz 450Se Sedan.

Congratulations to you all. We look forward to your continued company at meetings and events.

We are relaxing the rules for achieving full membership, due to the Covid 19 situation, but could Provisional Members please make the effort to contact Trevor, to ensure you are still interested in joining the ACCMB.

Trevor Wehrman (Membership Officer)



## COMING EVENTS!

## CHRISTMAS PARTY (SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020)

Please note that this event has now been cancelled.

## PIZZA NIGHT (FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021)

Is it really going to happen? Well, we hope so! As I write this, only a few days ago it was all systems go, but with a limit of 50 people. As it stands now, it is off again. So, what will happen by January 15<sup>th</sup> is anyone's guess.

So, let's be positive and assume that we will be able to go ahead as per normal. I will try to let you know if we have to cancel or feel free to call me or Vicki.

#### Remember, this is a Friday night event

Make your own way to John & Vicki Courtney's place to arrive from 5.30 PM. Pizza will be ordered to arrive at 6.30 PM.

NOTE: Please enter from the Riverglades Lagoon side of property, NOT THE NORMAL DRIVEWAY (see directions below) and park in the front yard. Closer to carry chairs and eskies!

Pizza and Water Melon & Pineapple supplied

Cost: - \$5.00 per person

Bring: - Chairs, Drinks, Mosquito Repellent

Directions: - Leave Murray Bridge Main Street and cross the old bridge, follow the Old Princes Highway to the top of Budericks Hill (or the OTR Service Station, for you youngsters) and TURN LEFT into Mitchell Avenue. Follow Mitchell Avenue till you reach Loddon Road and TURN LEFT. Continue to the bottom of the hill then TURN LEFT into Riverglades View (Previously called Murray Drive). Follow this road for 200 metres (it's only a track at that stage) then TURN LEFT into our gateway.

Please let us know if you will be attending so we know how many Pizzas to order! If you have not put your names on the attendance sheet at the December meeting, phone **John or Vicki on 85324107**. Should we be limited to a maximum of 50 people, I will let the excess people know that they will be unable to attend. Please also let us know if for some reason

you need to remove your name from this list, this MAY be more important than ever this year, as your lack of attendance could prevent someone else from doing so.

## CRUISE NIGHT (FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021)

This is an informal run, where you can come and go as you please. We will not be going as a group. Directions: - Leave Murray Bridge on the Swanport/Jervois Road. Turn left onto Swanport Village Road (shortly after passing under the South Eastern Freeway) and follow this road to Swanport Reserve. Come along for a casual get together, bring your tucker, drinks, mosquito repellent, whatever, and join us any time from 5:30 p.m. See you there.

Jan Hall (Run Organiser).

## **CLUB CLASSIFIEDS**

#### **November Meeting**

• For Sale. Mercedes 450 SLC Red Contact Roy Bretag 0438425791.

## **NEWS FROM OTHER CLUBS**

All American Day Car Show. Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021. Tilley Reserve Hancock's Road Surrey Downs. Public Welcome. Adults \$7.00, Kids U14 Free. Enquiries, Adrian 08 82649556.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To Terry and June Mabbitt who celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary recently.

In view of the limited numbers who have been attending our meetings recently, I also extend congratulations to any of our club members, or their family, who also may have celebrated a special occasion over recent months and have been unable to share the occasion with us all.







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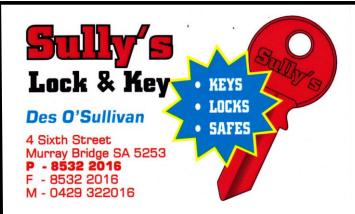
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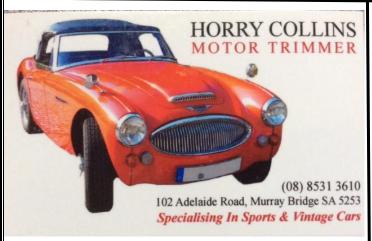


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## Run Reports

### Patron's Run 14/10/2020

18 cars and 36 people left the clubrooms in the beautiful sunshine and crisp air, just the sort of day you enjoy taking your old car for a spin. We arrived at Ben's at 10:30 a.m., morning tea time, to coffee and biscuits. After perusing the great collection of cars and a motor home that Ben had on show, he then took us to see the "surprise", he wanted to show us.

Just up the street and across the road to his new showroom, where ("Blow me Down"), there was the pink and white Ford replica Thunderbird that Marilyn Monroe drove in the late fifties film (Blonds have more Fun). But unfortunately, I did not have my credit card with me or I might have been driving home in it.

We then drove the short distance around to the Commercial Hotel for lunch which was very good in selection and very good quantity. Graham organized a group to look at the Strath Museum. But Lyn and I decided to head for home before it got too hot, as MG'S don't like the heat, and neither do I.

I would like to thank all of you who attended the run and I hope you enjoyed it as much as Lyn and I. A thank you to Terry and June, for being Tail End Charly and thankfully no incidents reported.

(Thank you for the report, supplied by Bob & Lyn Hunter (Run Organizers) and photos from Graham Edwards.)

Photo below is a view in the Strathalbyn Museum.





Left - Vehicle on display at Ben Finniss Classic Collectables Strathalbyn

Right - Club members at Strathalbyn Classic Collectables.





Left- Club Members vehicles at lunch stop on Vernon Graetz Memorial Run.

### **Vernon Graetz Memorial Run 15/11/2020**

On a warm Sunday morning of the 15<sup>th</sup> November with the weather forecast to reach 38 degrees, 7 cars aged between 1930's to 1985 and 2 modern cars set of for Frank Potts Park at Strathalbyn, travelling via Maurice, Martins and Brinkley Roads for a picnic, smoko early lunch.

We found a lovely plot amongst gums with plenty of shade, then set up tables and chairs and had our scrumptious picnic, there were 18 of us from the club and we had the pleasure of Cecily's brother and partner join us.

There was a proposed toast with champagne to honour Vernon, I am sure he would have felt proud in the way he was honoured; Cecily drove the LaSalle.

When it came time to progress to Rusticana Winery for wine tasting none of us were in a hurry to leave, especially with more Bubbly being consumed.

At Rusticana Wines we tasted their fine wine along with the famous Newman's Horseradish, also with Beetroot and Mustard.

I am sure I can speak for all that were present very relaxing enjoyable run, despite the heat. Please excuse the photography my first attempt was better, so I thought, oops no gallery, unfortunately I did not capture a single photo to save, thought the on off button was the shutter. "Modern Technology." Luckily realised before we left.



Above -Lyn & Tom West sampling beverages at the Rusticana Winery.

(Thank you for the report and photos supplied by Jan Hall (Run Organiser).



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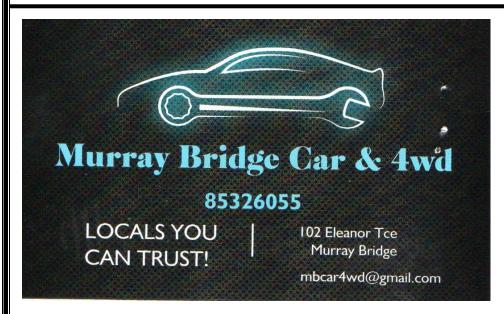






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