



# Auto Torque

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

Website address: [autocollectorsmurraybridge.com](http://autocollectorsmurraybridge.com)

**JUNE – JULY 2024**





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# AUTO COLLECTORS CLUB

P.O. BOX 869, MURRAY BRIDGE, 5253

## ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS 2023/2024

<b>PATRON</b>	Bob Hunter	12 Sturt St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321603
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Harry Howitt	Unit 54, 51 Owl Drive, MURRAY BRIDGE	0412 426 581
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Claude Minge	65 Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 322229
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Debbie Schiller	<a href="mailto:accmbsecretary@gmail.com">accmbsecretary@gmail.com</a> 32 Christian Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	0407 847 434
<b>ASST SECRETARY</b>	Elizabeth Minge	65 Swanport Road, MURRAY BRIDGE	85 322229
<b>TREASURER</b>	Jan Hall	23 Ida St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0438607116
<b>REGISTRAR</b>	Darren Fountain	88 Thomas St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0419841119
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 1</b>	Tim Stroh	116 Hindmarsh Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	0428131383
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 2</b>	David Burt	32 Willow Ave., MURRAY BRIDGE	0419840195
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 3</b>	Andrew MacKinnon	10 Carr St., MOUNT BARKER	0492 951 087 A/Hours only
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 4</b>	Jeff Schiller	32 Christian Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	0419008919
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	Graham Edwards	113 Standen St., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 321175
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Trevor Wehrman	30 Florence St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0437815782
<b>POINTS SECRETARY</b>	Elaine Bretag	P.O. Box 2124, MURRAY BRIDGE	0409 056 158
<b>WEBMASTER</b>	Pieter Kriel	<a href="mailto:autocollectorsmb@gmail.com">autocollectorsmb@gmail.com</a> 19 McAnaney Rd., LANGHORNE CREEK	85 469292
<b>ASST. WEBMASTER</b>	Yvonne Mach	<a href="mailto:autocollectorsmb@outlook.com">autocollectorsmb@outlook.com</a> 296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 326024
<b>EDITOR</b>	Yvonne Mach	<a href="mailto:autocollectorsmb@outlook.com">autocollectorsmb@outlook.com</a> 296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 326024
<b>ASST EDITOR</b>	Peter Mach	296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	85 326024
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Brenda Cowie, Shirley Sellick, Tim Stroh, John Courtney, and Brett Zastera.		
<b>HALL REPS.</b>	Jan Hall and Brett Zastera.		
<b>FEDERATION REP.</b>	Andrew MacKinnon	<b>AUDITOR</b>	To Be Filled
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>	Ricky Kaak	<b>PROPERTY OFFICER</b>	To Be Filled
<b>CLUB HISTORIAN</b>	Graham Edwards	<b>PUBLIC OFFICER</b>	Debbie Schiller

Club Fees      Membership Fee of \$50.00 (including children up to 16 years)

**\*\* (Joining Fee for Provisional Members \$30.00 from 8/11/2022, Logbook Fee \$0.00 from 13/7/2023 and an Annual Hard Copy Magazine Fee \$20.00 from 1/7/2023.) \*\***

**ALL ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE RELEVANT OFFICER**

### OUR COVER PICTURES: Conrod Weekend Challenge.

Archive Photos on bottom of page 8. Right: Zerna Picnic near Cambrai 13/3/2011. Left: Ray & Barb Jones at Pinnaroo Campout 24/4/2010.

# Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	WHO, WHAT, WHERE
2024		
June 4 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms - 7:30 p.m.
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Saturday)	ACCMB Annual Presentation Dinner	ACCMB Committee
July 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday)	A.G.M. & General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
July 9 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
July 28 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Pub Run	John & Vicki Courtney

## 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.*

## Other Events of Interest

June 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Murray Bridge
June 7 <sup>th</sup> (Friday) – June 10 <sup>th</sup> (Monday)	2024 HD – HR Holden Nationals Murray Bridge SA	Details Feb – Mar issue.
June 23 <sup>rd</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Mannum
July 7 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Murray Bridge
July 28 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Mannum

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

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## 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 [autocollectorsmb@outlook.com](mailto:autocollectorsmb@outlook.com) Also, please send same to our Webmaster, Pieter Kriel, [autocollectorsmb@gmail.com](mailto: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 next Newsletter, articles should reach the Editor **AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR** to the August meeting. Many thanks for your cooperation – Yvonne.

**CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

50th Anniversary stick on car badges \$4-50 ea

Club Name Badges — \$20  
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ACCMB Metal Car Badges \$15

ACCMB Coffee Mug — \$10 each

2006, 2007, & 2017 Twin Bridges Rally Car Badges — \$5 each

Windscreen Stickers  
LARGE Internal-External \$4-50 each  
SMALL \$4-00

Hat / Lapel Badges—\$5 each

Key Rings—\$5 each

50th Anniversary Tawny \$12 bottle

See — [Roy Bretag or Graham Edwards at any ACCMB Meeting night](#)

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## President's Report

Well, another Club Year is coming to an end. I have enjoyed being President and having a committee to help me. I wish to thank the ladies of the Club for their help at our functions. All the functions run by the Club have been successful. Thanks to Event Coordinators running them. Vice President Claude has had a rough year with back injuries but is now on the mend, and taking it quietly, we hope. The Presentation night is on Saturday JUNE 22nd. Please put your name on the paperwork in the foyer if you wish to attend. Tuesday "2" nd JULY is the "AGM". Please try to attend this meeting, as it is very important for The Voting of Nominations for the upcoming election for the Next Year. 2024 & 2025. A big thank you goes to our Editor Yvonne Mach, for producing the AUTO TORQUE MAGAZINE.

Your President, Harry Howitt.

### LOGBOOKS RENEWALS 2024/2025

#### A reminder.

The Registrar Team need to restamp all club members logbooks yearly. All Logbooks will be collected at Club Meetings in May, June, or July only. The renewals will be processed and posted back to members in due course. You will need to provide your logbooks, registration papers, membership payment receipt from the Treasurer or a copy of your direct deposit for the payment of your Club Membership Renewal and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Registrar team at the meeting night. To avoid delays, please note that the Registrars no longer handle money.

Thanks

The Registration Team.



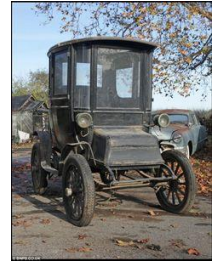
## THE LATEST ON OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Our New Provisional Members are: -

- Anthony & Judith Prosser – 1990 Holden Commodore Sedan.
- Michael & Amanda Pfau – 19666 Holden HR Wagon, 1979 Ford Escort Coupe.

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

Trevor Wehrman (Membership Officer)



## DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We advise of the recent passing of one of our former club members, Murray Piltz on 29/5/2024. We extend our condolences to the Piltz family, and any club and family members who have experienced the loss of loved ones recently. Our thoughts are with you all at this difficult time.



## 2024 / 2025 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership renewal fees for 2024/2025 will be \$50.00. There are no fees for Logbook replacements and the Annual Hard Copy Magazine Fee will no longer be applicable. Please tick the box on your Membership renewal form if you DO NOT require a hard copy of the Auto Torque magazine.

All membership renewal forms will be emailed in May 2024 to members who have provided an email address to the club. All other non-email address membership renewal forms will be posted to members. Please complete the form and return it to the Treasurer as soon as possible. This will ensure that our club records are kept up to date.

Membership renewal payment must be paid by or at the A.G.M. on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024.

## WELL WISHES

We are aware of club members currently experiencing health and wellbeing issues. We offer our wishes to you and trust you get well soon, enabling you to re-join our club activities.



## From the Editor

Welcome to the latest edition of "Auto Torque".

Music with or without words evokes many kinds of emotions. Composed and written to delight audiences around the world for opera, concert, film, wedding, funeral, dance, or religious occasions or just the personal enjoyment of individuals as they work or relax. Some pieces have a melody or tell a story, some are just a few repeated notes and the same few words, some are very loud, whilst others are quiet, peaceful, or relaxing. Whatever the piece of music or music and song, all have a very specific group of people who enjoy their chosen selection. I have also noticed that many are not tolerant when they must listen to music that is not to their liking. I love music and songs and I too have my own special choices. Personally, I enjoy songs where the music accompaniment does not drown out the voice and when the voice clearly enunciates the syllables. A married couple that I know, where the husband plays in a band and often practises at home, has his wife attempting to sing along to the music he is playing. He invariably reminds her that she has invented many new notes as part of her rendition, and I must admit culpability for this offence too. I wash and iron for a family of six and believe that ironing is one of the worst jobs possible. Before I retrieve the ironing board and iron from the cupboard, I set up and start the music, and then there I am doing this dreadful chore whilst listening to music and songs that I love. The iron darts along the clothes in beat with the music, my foot is tapping, I do my own version of the songs, and I am transported into the world of music. The cat generally lifts his head to stare at me for a few moments, then proceeds to put it back down and place his paw over his head to resume sleep. So, I am guessing he is not impressed either. Needless to say, all ironing at my home is done whilst there is no other humans present. But be rest assured, there is no music playing when I am in the driver's seat of the car. That would be too annoying since there is no way you can concentrate and drive, yet enjoy music at the same time. Music is life's delight.

Safe and Happy driving to all.

Yvonne

## CLUB CLASSIFIEDS

### April Meeting.

#### For Sale.

- 1 x Truck Tyre Goodyear 12 – 20 OMNITRAC, never mounted \$300.00 ONO. Contact Pieter Kriel 85469292.

### May Meeting.

#### For Sale.

- VW 1976 Beetle, very good condition, \$23000.00 ONO. Contact Ricky Kaak 0434 945 504.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are extended to any Club Member and their family who have celebrated a special birthday or anniversary recently.



# COMING EVENTS!

## ACCMB PRESENTATION DINNER

(Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024)

The ACCMB Annual Dinner and Trophy Presentation Night will be held at the 1924 River Front Steakhouse 1 Wharf Road Murray Bridge on Saturday 22 June 2024. Further details regarding this event will be advised in due course. Please keep this date free and join club members for a great night out. Could members who received Perpetual Trophies at last year's event, please return them to Brenda Cowie as soon as possible. Thank you.  
ACCMB Committee

## PUB RUN

(Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024)

This year we will be going to the Middleton Tavern, so I suppose we will be actually having a "Tavern Run", but "Pub Run" sounds better, so we will stick to that name.

Leave Johnstone Park clubrooms at 9:30 a.m.

Stop at Strathalbyn Railway Station for smoko. BYO refreshments or visit the bakery opposite, they have good coffee and buns. Feel free to have smoko in shop or in the railway station park, likely to depend on the weather as much as personal preference.

From Strathalbyn, we will travel via Ashbourne and Mount Compass, to Middleton. This should be a very scenic and pleasant drive. For those not leaving with the group from Murray Bridge, we can meet up at any of these places but please contact organisers to confirm these arrangements.

Lunch will commence approximately 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. Order from menu, good selection of meals, please see menu, I will email copy of menu in June so you can have a good idea what they are offering. Their menu is quite extensive and also includes a Roast (\$18) and other specials listed on the day. All meals include self-serve vegetables and salad. We have found the meals to be very good in the past.

Return home at your leisure. The round trip should be just under 200 Km.

Please confirm your attendance by adding your names to the sheet at a general meeting at the clubrooms or phone John or Vicki. Please also let us know if you are then unable to attend as the Tavern can be quite popular and it would be unfair on them to have vacant places that could be used by other patrons.

Hope to see you there, it promises to be a really good day.

John & Vicki Courtney, Phone 85 324107





## REGISTRATION OF VEHICLE TYPES

As you would be aware, the members of the Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge were recently given the opportunity to have their say on the types of vehicles that could access Conditional Registration through THIS club. The SA Government recently amended the **Code of Practice – Conditional Registration Scheme** to allow for the inclusion of “**Individually Constructed Vehicles**” and as we as a club had not previously specified what could be registered at all, the Management Committee decided that it was high time we did, so that existing and future members would know exactly where we stand. As a result, a ballot was held, and the results were as follows: -

- Registration of Historic Vehicles 100% in favour
- Registration of Left-Hand Drive Vehicles 92% in favour
- Registration of Street Rod Vehicles 71% in favour
- Registration of Individually Constructed Vehicles 64% in favour.

As a result of this ballot, the Management Committee agreed to update the section of our “**Club and Rally Rules**” on **Conditional Registration** to reflect these views, but also take the opportunity to correct some other minor errors that had occurred over time, such as the DPTI now being called the DIT. Therefore, that section will now read as follows.

### CONDITIONAL REGISTRATION

There are two main DIT documents that persons who have vehicles on “Conditional Registration”, or intend to have, must be familiar with.

- ***Code of Practice – Conditional Registration Scheme for Historic, Left-Hand Drive, Street Rod, and Individually Constructed Vehicles (Latest Version)***.
- ***MR1457 Modifications to Passenger Cars, Utilities, Panel Vans and 4WD Passenger Vehicles (Latest Version)***

Copies of these documents may be accessed from our Club Website.

Members with **Historic Vehicles, Left-Hand Drive Vehicles, Street Rod Vehicles, and Individually Constructed Vehicles** may access conditional registration through **The Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge Inc.** providing the vehicles are roadworthy, comply with the Code of Practice, MR1457 and any other relevant criteria.

In addition, the following rules apply to members availing themselves of “Conditional Registration” Through **THIS** club: -

The vehicle must be inspected by a Club Registrar before an MR334, or Logbook will be issued.

- Any modifications must be legal. This may be determined by, but not limited to, MR1457.
- Those applying for “Conditional Registration” must be aware that the Club Registrar is **obliged** to report to the DIT, any questionable modifications that do not have a “Certificate of Exemption” issued for them. This **MAY** require inspection at Regency Park.
- The Club Registrars from time to time, may request the inspection of any vehicle.
- A “Review Committee” has been formed within the club, to clarify any issue should a dispute arise from this process.

John Courtney  
For Management Committee  
The Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge Inc.

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# ***Run Reports***

## **AUTO COLLECTORS CONROD CHALLENGE ACCEPTED! 12 – 14<sup>th</sup>** **April 2024**

For over 45 years, motor vehicle enthusiasts and collectors from Murray Bridge, the Riverland, Bordertown, and Mallee regions have taken part in the “CONROD CHALLENGE WEEKEND”.

Initiated in 1978, club members, families and friends from the Bordertown Vehicle Restorers Club, the Riverland Car Club, the Murray Mallee Auto Club, and the Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge have come together annually, for a weekend of fun and friendship-albeit with a somewhat competitive undertone.

Up for grabs, was the coveted Conrod Trophy-a rod from a 40hp single cylinder tractor, mounted on a polished wooden board and which bears the names of all previous successful club winners.

Proudly kept by the winning club for the following year, the Conrod trophy symbolises the strength, resilience, and fundamental necessity of such a piece of equipment in a vehicle. One could use this analogy to represent these automotive enthusiasts. Just like the conrod-which converts energy, guides connecting parts and is responsible for the proper operation of an engine-so too are the committees and members of these car clubs, whose common interest in motor vehicles has brought them together for decades.

And so, it was once again, that early on the morning of Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup>, that 25 vehicles ranging from a 1928 Oakland, a '62 Zephyr, a '69 Jaguar, right through to more modern vehicles-a Statesman, a BMW Roadster, a MazdaBT50-assembled at the ACCMB Clubroom.

But when the Denning Coach pulled up, driven by Riverland Club member, Richard MacLean, everyone was especially impressed.

The Denning brand is Australia’s oldest bus manufacturing company, with all products fully designed, engineered, and assembled in Australia.



Travelling together in a convoy, the destination for the morning was Mypolonga, the 2022 Primary Industries and Regional Development Agricultural Town of the Year recipient.



The first stop was to “Aussie Apricots”, where we were treated to an informative talk given by Kathy and Paul Prosser and their daughter Jade. Kathy has owned and operated the chocolate-making side of the business for 18 years and visitors were kept both amused and satisfied by the light-hearted banter between the trio and of course, delicious chocolate-covered fruits and other delights. A quiz sheet was given out to all clubs’ members, with points to be tallied and accumulated during the weekend. (Points were awarded on day 1 of the weekend, for correct

answers which went towards the determining of a winner for the Conrod trophy, after the next competition on Sunday).

Following on from Aussie Apricots, we proceeded to the nearby “Revolution Motor Museum”, also owned by the Prosser family, where members and visitors were privileged to

view over 30 vehicles and motor bikes, as well as innumerable pieces of automobile memorabilia.

Quiz sheets were again frantically being filled out....

Our hosts provided a delicious barbeque lunch and conversations revolved around the enormous task that Paul and Kathy have undertaken, but all acknowledged its impressiveness and tourism potential in a regional area.



Saturday night dinner was spent at Swanny's Hotel and Bistro, where fun, laughter and fellowship were continued to be enjoyed by all.

The weekend's activities recommenced bright and early on Sunday morning, (day 2) where a Putt Putt Golf challenge at the Avoca Dell Holiday Park had been arranged. Suffice to say, there were no Tiger Woods or Greg Normans among the 50 competitors, but some good scores were achieved, with

several "holes-in-one" being recorded.

Accumulated scores from each of the three participating clubs were again tallied and recorded.....

A casual luncheon, including a celebratory "2024 CONROD CAKE" for dessert, culminated an enjoyable weekend of activities, fun and laughter, with just a hint of competitive camaraderie!

After intense scrutinising of the quiz sheets and golf scores, the Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge narrowly defeated the Bordertown Club to reclaim the Conrod Trophy, with the Riverland Club coming in at a creditable third place. The ACCMB will be the custodians of the trophy until next year, when the Mallee Auto Club will host the Conrod Challenge weekend-then let the games begin.....

(Thank you for this report from Liz Minge and Graham Edwards, and photos from Graham Edwards)



### **FEDERATION - "MEET the CAR CLUB'S TOUR" 13/5/2024.**

Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024, saw the commencement of the 11-day Federation of Historic Motor Clubs S.A. (FOHMCSA) "Meet the Clubs Tour of the South East Safari".

First stop was to the Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge (ACCMB) at their Johnstone Park clubrooms for their midday lunch, while ACCMB Life Member Brenda Cowie and caterer, with her team of "lovely" volunteers, were preparing for a welcoming midday meal of cold meat and salads, along with a delicious serving of sweets and ice cream for the 43 visitors on the run.

24 vehicles, of which 3 were towing their caravans, and classic vehicles ranging from a 1938 Dodge Desoto SP5, through the 1950's, 60's, 70's, 80's with a 1990 VW Golf M1 Cabriolet being the most modern on the run.







As the guests settled into their

seats chatting about what the rest of the day was going to bring, ACCMB President, Harry Howitt welcomed all present and hoped they would enjoy their brief visit to Murray Bridge. Following lunch, "South East Safari" committee spokesperson, Mr. Doug Hill outlined further details of the "Safari", with the first nights stopover being at Bordertown. The purpose of the FOHMCSA "South East Safari", is to meet with Car Clubs in country towns. These clubs do not have the opportunity to meet with people, as the city clubs do. The clubs that the "Safari" visit, will have the chance as hosts, to suggest places of interest to visit, while supplying meals, as well as meeting with the members on tour.

In concluding, Mr. Hill thanked the ACCMB and the ladies for hosting such a wonderful lunch.

ACCMB President thanked the group for coming, before wishing them a safe and happy tour.

From Murray Bridge, the "South East Safari" will travel and stay a few nights at Bordertown, Naracoorte, Mount Gambier, Portland, Kingston Sth. East before returning to Middleton, on the 24<sup>th</sup> May, where the 2024 "FOHMCSA South East Safari" will conclude, with a farewell evening dinner to be held at the Middleton Tavern, to say their goodbye's to each other, and I am sure there will be many stories told about different aspects of the tour, including discussion about the best or worst of the makes and models of vehicles seen at other clubs visited whilst on tour, and reflecting on another successful run.

(Thank you to Brenda Cowie and assistants for organizing the luncheon, and Graham Edwards for this report and photos.)



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