



# Auto Torque

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

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

**OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2024**





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# AUTO COLLECTORS CLUB

P.O. BOX 869, MURRAY BRIDGE, 5253

## ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS      2024/2025

<b>PATRON</b>	Graham Edwards	113 Standen St., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 1175
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Brian Rainey	261 Adelaide Rd, MURRAY BRIDGE	0498 323 223
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Claude Minge	65 Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 2229
<b>SECRETARY</b>	To Be Filled	<a href="mailto:accmbsecretary@gmail.com">accmbsecretary@gmail.com</a>	
<b>ASST SECRETARY</b>	Liz Minge	65 Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 2229
<b>TREASURER</b>	Jan Hall	23 Ida St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0438 607 116
<b>REGISTRAR</b>	Andrew MacKinnon	10 Carr St., MOUNT BARKER	0492 951 087 A/Hours only
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 1</b>	Tim Stroh	116 Hindmarsh Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	0428 131 383
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 2</b>	David Burt	32 Willow Ave., MURRAY BRIDGE	0419 840 195
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 3</b>	Jeff Schiller	32 Christian Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	0419 008 919
<b>ASST. REGISTRAR 4</b>	Darren Fountain	88 Thomas St., MURRAY BRIDGE	0419 841 119
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	Liz Minge	65 Swanport Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 2229
	Di Dawson	P.O. Box 678, MURRAY BRIDGE	0408 080 124
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Roy Bretag	P.O. Box 2124, MURRAY BRIDGE	0438 425 791
<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	8546 9292
<b>ASST. WEBMASTER</b>	Yvonne Mach	<a href="mailto:autocollectorsmb@outlook.com">autocollectorsmb@outlook.com</a> 296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 6024
		<a href="mailto:autocollectorsmb@outlook.com">autocollectorsmb@outlook.com</a> 296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 6024
<b>EDITOR</b>	Yvonne Mach	296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 6024
<b>ASST EDITOR</b>	Peter Mach	296 Adelaide Rd., MURRAY BRIDGE	8532 6024
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Tim Stroh, John Courtney, Brett Zastera, Neil Burbidge and David Burt.		
<b>HALL REPS.</b>	Claude Minge and John Courtney.		
<b>FEDERATION REP.</b>	Andrew MacKinnon	<b>AUDITOR</b>	To Be Filled
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>	Peter Kiely	<b>PROPERTY OFFICER</b>	To Be Filled
<b>CLUB HISTORIAN</b>	Liz Minge and Di Dawson	<b>PUBLIC OFFICER</b>	To Be Filled

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.) \*\***

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

**ACCMB Life Members:** † P. Kruger, † C. Zerna, † H. Zerna, E. Wehrman, † P. Wehrman, A. Hagger, M. Hagger, † M. Fountain, J. Burt, R. Burt, J. Davis, † D. Davis, M. Kuchel, B. Kuchel, S. Hoffmann, B. Hoffmann, † V. Graetz, C. Graetz, † J. Fountain, N. Schubert, M. Schubert, K. Schubert, T. West, L. West, J. Courtney, V. Courtney, † L. Cowie, B. Cowie, T. Julian, R. Julian, G. Edwards, M. Edwards, R. Bretag, E. Bretag, D. Fountain.

# Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	WHO, WHAT, WHERE
<b>2024</b>		
Oct. 1st (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Wellington Strawberry Fete	Lyn & Tom West
Oct. 27 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Callington Show	Roy & Elaine Bretag
Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Murray Bridge Christmas Pageant	To be advised
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	ACCMB Christmas Party	To be advised
<b>2025</b>	No General Meeting in January	
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup> (Friday)	Combined Cruise & Pizza Night	Claude & Liz Minge/Jan Hall
Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 11 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 19 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	Patron's Run	Graham & Maureen Edwards
Apr. 1 <sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
Apr. (Weekend)	Conrod Weekend	Hosted by Mallee Car Club
May 6 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Tuesday)	General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
July 1 <sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)	A.G.M. & General Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.
July 8 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Committee Meeting	Clubrooms – 7:30 p.m.

## 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

October 5 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday) <sup>h</sup>	Vintage Collingrove Hillclimb	Federation Website
October 6 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Murray Bridge
October 14 <sup>th</sup> (Monday)	Federation Motorfest	Federation Website
October 20 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Bay to Birdwood	Federation Website
October 26 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Loxton Historical Run	Federation Website
October 27 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	SA Jag Day	Federation Website
October 27 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Mannum
November 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Murray Bridge
November 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Sunday)	Ford Invitation Picnic Day	Federation Website
November 9 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Power of the Past	Federation Website
November 15 <sup>th</sup> (Friday)	Travel to Bendigo Swap	Federation Website
November 17 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Rotary Swap Meet	Federation Website
November 24 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Mannum
December 1 <sup>st</sup> (Sunday)	Cars & Coffee	Murray Bridge
March 30 <sup>th</sup> 2025 (Sunday)	Gawler to Barossa Veteran & Vintage Run	Federation Website

(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 [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 December meeting. Many thanks for your cooperation – Yvonne.

**CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**



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



ACCMB Metal Car Badges \$15



ACCMB Coffee Mug — \$10 each



Club Name Badges — \$20  
ORDER from Treasurer JAN



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



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



Hat / Lapel Badges—\$5 each



50th Anniversary Tawny \$12 bottle



Key Rings—\$5 each

See — Roy Bretag or Graham Edwards at any ACCMB Meeting night

### Pictures in Stitches

Proprietors  
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Contact this business to arrange our club monogramming for your club shirt and/or jumper.  
Items will be picked up and delivered from depot at 19 Reserve Drive Murray Bridge 5253



# President's Report



I have survived the first two months as your President and would like to thank our committee for all the work they have done behind the scenes.

Many hours go into organising an event and we should all be grateful for this work done by our volunteers. I don't really have a clue what goes on but fortunately you have a great secretary and past president that can point me in the right direction.

One of our past Presidents informed me that the President of a car club should have an old car. I thought if you had a love of cars that it would be enough. After 2½ years in the club I decided I should do something about it. I couldn't spend much because I first had to build a shed to garage the car. I have finally purchased a car that will be eligible for Club registration in February of next year so I might get to find out how the system works.

I purchased a 2000 Mercedes Benz SLK350 convertible! First job was to get it serviced and find out how many faults it has. I also found that so far no one knows how to fix a couple of the things that eventually should be fixed. On top of that when I took it for a drive I found out that it Does NOT have a new car warranty, it hasn't got a reversing camera, park assist, lane keeping assist, adaptive cruise control, lane change assist, a USB socket for your music and videos and you cannot take your hands off the steering wheel when you want to take the wrapper off your cough lolly!

But it is fun to drive, and I love to put the top down, but then I worry that if it rains the thing won't go up again.

I really wanted a Jaguar XK120 convertible but did not have a spare 250k lying about. How motoring has progressed over the last 75 years. The fastest production car in 1949 was the Jaguar XK120. It had a 3.4 litre 6-cylinder engine with twin overhead cams and hemispherical combustion chambers, something that the Yanks couldn't get until the Hemi Pacer in the seventies. The Jag would do Zero to 100 kilometres an hour in 10.4 seconds and could reach a top speed of 120 miles an hour (About 197 KL per hour). My shopping trolley being the Volkswagen Polo has a one litre, 3-cylinder engine which can do zero to 100 kilometres an hour in 9.5 seconds and reach a top speed of 207 kilometres per hour. Somehow though the Jag still feels faster. If only the Jag wasn't 6 times the price of the little VW.

Maybe I should stick to the new cars as I can't fix either of them but at least the new car has a warranty so that someone else can fix them. Hats off to our members that have mechanical skills.

Some of you have probably noticed that I cannot spell, and my grammar is not the best. Fortunately, in my 46-year insurance career my clients were not much better. If you can't find errors, it is probably because our editor is on the ball.

Brian Rainey

## From the Editor

Welcome to the latest edition of "Auto Torque".

I think that most of us take our health and mobility for granted, enjoying our days and evenings without even thinking about what it requires for our bodies to perform our actions. Many of us are either a member and or a volunteer in at least one of the many social, sporting, or fundraising groups and organisations operating within our communities. Many years ago, I joined the Crippled Children's Auxiliary Group here in Murray Bridge. I was extremely thankful for our two young healthy children and decided to assist help with the group's fundraising efforts to improve the lives of those children less unfortunate than ours. Our small group of volunteers were constantly busy, and most years achieved the acknowledgement from SA Head Office of the best SA Auxiliary. But the ageing of our members, accreditation requirements, and increased record keeping, saw its eventual closure. Many fundraising groups, associations, sporting clubs and committees are constantly grappling with these same issues today. Volunteers are difficult to acquire and often keep, thereby greatly effecting even their basic operations and limiting their ability to assist in the wider community.

Our car club is in a similar position at the present, with many of our maturer members who have done so much for the club over many years, scaling back their volunteering time. Runs and events desperately need reinvigorating by the newer members to lead the club forward to the future and despite our club now having around 300 members, comparatively, the percentage of active members within our club has severely reduced. Do we need new directions, new ideas, different solutions? Our club needs your input as its members so it can work towards the future. So please speak up and voice your opinions and thoughts, so that the club can better cater for as many members as possible in the way they would like the club to function, so we can prosper. Our club is about both the social aspect and the enjoyment of owning a vehicle and the privilege of being able to drive it on the roads. So, let's get driving.

Safe and Happy driving to all.  
Yvonne

## **THE LATEST ON OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

### Achieving Full Membership

- Jayden Pitt & Brianna Willis - 1991 Capri Convertible, 1970 Triumph 2000 Mk2 Sedan.

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

Roy Bretag (Membership Officer)



Archive pictures on front page and page 9 are a selection of club vehicles at various club events from 2009 to 2017.

## DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We advise of the recent passing of Kathleen Work on 5 August 2024, the mother of our club members Karen & Bryan Humby. We extend our condolences to the Humby family and any other club and family members who have experienced the loss of loved ones recently. Our thoughts are with you all at this difficult time.



## 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.



## CLUB CLASSIFIEDS

### August Meeting.

#### For Sale.

- Set of 4 Truck Gates \$200.00. Contact Han 0404 044 752.

#### Wanted

- Drivers door handle including lock for Citron Light IS Sedan. Contact Sara 0409 321 992.
- Ford A Parts. Contact Peter 0407 675 187.



### August Meeting.

#### For Sale.

- International Truck Manuals. Parts – Service – Owners. Various models. Contact Han 0404 044 752.
- XJ6 1976 Jaguar. \$2500.00 Contact Mike 0413 723 600 or 0425 137 171.

#### Wanted

- MG TC Clutch Pressure Plate. Contact Peter 0407 675 187.

## CONGRATULATIONS

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





# COMING EVENTS!

## WELLINGTON STRAWBERRY FETE

(Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024)

- Meet at the Clubrooms at 8:45 a.m. to **LEAVE AT 9:00a.m.**
- Drive to Wellington to take part in the Strawberry Fete activities as a static display. We will travel via Maurice Road, Hindmarsh Road, Jervois Road, Flagstaff Road, Wellington Road.
- Either B.Y.O. morning tea/lunch, or purchase from the available stalls and/or BBQ on site.
- You will need to bring your own chairs, tables, etc.
- The Strawberry Fete is organised by the Wellington Progress Association and features Strawberries and Ice-cream plus other food stalls. There are usually lots of feature stalls which include Art & Craft, Plants, Books, Bric-a-Brac, Preserves, Jewellery, Woodwork, etc. We can also expect live music throughout the day.



The Wellington Fete has a good reputation, and we were looked after very well last visit. Please fill in the attendance sheet at the September/October General Meeting, or ring Lyn or Tom West (85 326908) to register your interest or for more information.

## CALLINGTON SHOW

(Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2024)

This is a GREAT Country Show for a small town and would recommend it for anyone who has not who has not attended in previous years.

We have 8 vehicles entered with room for several more. Add your name to run list on Oct 1st Club meeting.

Contact Roy or Elaine Bretag for further information.



## What's On 2024 Lots of FREE entertainment!



**Show opening at 12noon**  
Willy Wagtails indigenous youth dance group  
& welcome to country

**Drumming Monkeys** sponsored by  
Johnston Withers Lawyers

**Recreation Community Centre**  
Celebrity bake off chocolate cake  
Composting and preserving  
Demonstration by Kate from Recipe,  
Roots and Reasons

**Live Music**  
Murray Bridge Concert Band  
SA Police band

**\*\*Lower Oval\*\***  
Ironclad medieval fighting and  
living display

Tartan Muscle strong man and  
Highland Games

**Rides and Sideshows**  
Classic Cars  
Truck & Ute show !!!  
Vintage and modern  
\*\*

**Dance Festival**  
Ukrainian Dance group

Shearing, dancing with dogs,  
scent dogs demonstration,  
wool competition & Onkaparinga  
Woollen Museum,  
Spinners & Weavers  
Snake and reptile display

**Kids Zone**  
Activity Tent, balloon man roving  
Parenting room, playground, sensory play  
area and free face painting  
Scoot stunt juggler demonstration and  
work shop

**The Show Pavilion**  
Watch blacksmiths at work  
Check out the Paddock to Plate display  
Miniature Garden & Garden  
Competition results  
Upcycle & Scarecrows

**Show Hall**  
View the cookery, handicrafts,  
produce, art, photography  
flowers & lots more.

**Animals**  
Miniature Goats and Milking Goats  
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On lower oval.

**Machinery**  
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Farmers challenge, stalls,

\* Events may be subject to change

**PATRON'S RUN**  
(Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025)

**\*\* PRELIMINARY NOTICE \*\***

**ACCMB PATRON'S RUN—2025**



**\*\* Where** — BOWHILL ENGINEERING **When** — Wednesday 19th March 2025 **Visit** — WILL BE CAPPED at the first 50 names

**\*\* Cost** — \$15 per Head — Lunch ( includes — 1/4 chicken, cold salads, various soft drinks, piece of cake ) & Tour Included.

**\*\* CASH only** & correct money required on the day please. NO EFTPOS

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE** — NO ALCOHOL to be brought or consumed on premises due to OH&S rules \*\*

**\*\* BYO** — Morning Tea to have between Tours of Factory. 2 X Groups of 25 people for each tour.

Please be advised that there is a flight of stairs from the ground floor to the kitchen and upstairs eating area


**\*\* IMPORTANT — FOOTWEAR** — Please wear CLOSED SHOES—NO THONGS or SANDALS \*\*

For further information please CONTACT—ACCMB Patron Graham or Maureen Edwards. 0428813070 / 85321175

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MODERN MOTOR — April 1955 43

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Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5pm

Saturday 9am - 12am

# *Run Reports*

## RIVERLAND FIELD DAYS 13-14/9/2024

Following an email that the Auto Collectors Club of Murray Bridge (ACCMB) received some months ago from the Administration Department of the Field Days through Vice President Claude Minge, inviting ACCMB members and their classic cars to attend and display the club and its vehicles, 7 ACCMB vehicles and 13 members attended the event.

The following report for the Friday is written by Yvonne Mach.

With the decision made many weeks ago, to participate in the Club static display at the Riverland Field Days, the Volkswagen still not running and the departure time fast approaching, it was time to formulate a plan B. A change in direction was made, preparations put in place and packing carried out. Now it is time to leave, and nowhere could the tow hitch be located, delaying our exit for a while, but eventually everything was set and out the gate we departed.

We agreed to travel to Barmera via Karoonda and Loxton. It was a picturesque drive in sunny weather, the natives in bloom gently waving to us, with the gentle breeze of course, and wattles in full flower giving plenty of colour along the roadside. Some land has been cropped but most were in poor condition, others distinctly struggling from the very dry season being experienced. For a large percentage of the drive, the power lines traversed alongside the road, and the native vegetation underneath appeared to have been recently trimmed ready for the summer season. Finally, the destination was achieved and we settled in for the night, making ready for an early start in the morning.

Unfortunately, the night was reasonably cold, and dew had settled onto our vintage vehicle by the morning, (our beloved Packard out in the weather!!), so this had to be attended to prior to departure to the Field Day site. Upon arrival we were directed to the club display area and joined up with our other three vehicles. All participants from our club, 7 of us in total in four vehicles had travelled and arrived separately and would depart at the end of the day in the same manner.

Now, I have not previously been familiar with the Riverland Field Days but discovered that this was their 65<sup>th</sup> year. They have a purposely built site covering a huge area, attracting over 15000 people over the two-day annual event, with a display of over 350 exhibitors showcasing their agricultural products and services, cars, caravans, tools, clothing, demonstrations, abundance of the region's food and beverages available for enjoyment, and the talented students and musicians performing. Of course, there were volunteers aplenty assisting to stage the event and keep things running smoothly throughout its duration.



So, with our cars parked on display, greetings and conversations carried out, it was time to launch out on foot and start to discover just what was going on around us. I had been concerned about p.m. I need not have worried. There was so much to see and do, many thousands of steps counted on the step counter, yet plenty of resting back with our group, chatting and eating delicious food before we all relaunched on another journey of discovery. For lunch, to team up with our purchases of foods and snacks throughout the day, I had taken a tin of fish but neglected to pack the cutlery. What fun, because this bought a whole new meaning to the terms "Fish Fingers" and "Finger looking good."



We enjoyed watching the demonstrations throughout the day in glorious spring weather, heard the helicopter overhead, as it constantly took spectators on joy flights around the perimeter, and quietly basked in the ambiance and fun of the event. Our vehicles were visited and admired by many, young and old and all those ages in between. I consider it was a privilege to participate in the event and it was great to be appreciated. Well worth the journey. Thank you to Han Robot, Grahame & Dianne Harris, Bruce & Marcia Eldridge for joining Peter and myself on the Friday. Peter & I continued to stay in the Riverland after the event, albeit too briefly, enjoying their hospitality and beautiful scenery, before returning home on a very cold and blustery day.

Thank you for the following Saturday report written by Graham Edwards.

On Saturday, 3 vehicles and 6 members and one guest, with those being, Noel, Julie & son Jeremy Jackson, in their 1988 VH Commodore Sedan. Ian & Lyn Buchanan with their family dog in their 1967 Chevy Camaro. Graham & Maureen Edwards in their 1961 MK 2 Ford Zephyr Sedan.



Graham, Maureen, Ian & Lyn made their way to the Riverland on Friday, to make life a little easier to be present and all set up by 9am at the field day site, while Noel, Julie and son Jeremy made their way up and back on Saturday. Unfortunately, Tony & Kirsty Pfeiffer were unable to join the group due to a last-minute medical appointment.

With sites 121 – 129, ACCMB members were all set up by 9am, and ready to go and do whatever “Floated their Boat”. Because of the size and area of the Field Day, members wandered off in all directions on and off during the day from 9am – 5pm. Fortunately, there were hundreds of exhibits to see, ranging from farm animals for children and some adults who shall remain nameless, who were seen patting and getting up close and personal with a Polar and Grizzly Bear at Jamie & Kim’s Mobile Zoo.

For the adventurous, you could for \$50, take a helicopter flight and do a couple of laps around the perimeter of the Field Day site at about 250 feet, getting a bird’s eye view of the action down below.

If you were looking for a new caravan, boat, car, truck, Ute, 4x4, trailer, dirt & quad bikes, and the tools and accessories to tackle repairs, it was all on display and for purchase. Even a monster drone to use for spraying your crops.



The Pavilions were packed with people trying out new beds, having massages for their arthritis aches and pains, alternative power supply salesmen, pest control, new schools for students, government departments, i.e. fisheries, land management – “it was all in your face” providing you had a pocket full of money.



It had to be the greatest place to find a new pair of woollen socks we’ve ever seen, 1,000’s of pairs of all shapes, colours and sizes, along with hats and belts galore.

If you were in the market for machinery, which included farm, orchards, vineyards, almonds, and in fact almost any form of machinery you could possibly want – this Riverland Field day had it all, impressive, millions of dollars’ worth of machinery etc, which makes one wonder, with the lack



of rain and with very few crops more than a couple of inches high between Murray Bridge and Barmera, along with the downturn of Wine sales etc, just how many of these machines will be left unsold and how many dealers will be in financial trouble. One dealer even had a “Hair Drier” accessory attached to his machine as standard equipment to try and attract the lady buyer.

As the day progressed, many trips to the few food vans took place, and even having to wait almost an hour, for two cups of coffee, when advised that the wait time would be 20 minutes. “How we would like to buy some time from that stall holder”.



Other car clubs in the Riverland had their respective vehicle displays, with many Riverland Vintage & Classic Car Club members asking, “What date is the next Biennial ACCMB Twin Bridges Rally” being held in 2025”?? It was a very awkward question for us to answer but, we said if someone steps up to organize the event, it may go ahead.

**Hopefully some of the ACCMB younger members will step up to the challenge of staging this “Well proven event” - form a committee and keep this GREAT event alive.** The Riverland Car Club have patronized this event almost from its early days.

With Saturday starting to draw to a close, one of the last static displays took place at 4pm, with the Airtime Freestyle Motorcross team of motor cyclist pushing the limits in an action-packed display. These riders have more “guts than I’ve ever had”. Well done.



One of our last walks took Maureen and Graham up past the “Blacksmith artists”, consisting of a working Blacksmith, manufacturing all things metal stand, which went back to the olden day craft of



Making stuff, past the Riverland Vintage Tractors and Machinery stand displaying old engines, along with a Replica Quadricycle built by Henry Ford in 1896. (this replica was built by John Morrison of Henley Beach).

Now nearing 5pm, it was time to pack up club flags etc. With our group saying their goodbyes and thanks to each other for a great day out, wishing each other a safe return home on Sunday (except for the Jackson’s who went home Saturday night).

A great 2 days was had by all the ACCMB members attending. Maybe, if the ACCMB are invited again to attend in 2025, more members will think ahead and make the effort to attend this tried and proven event, which has been running from 1958 – 2024, making it 65 years old.

(Photos were received from Peter Mach and Graham Edwards. Thank you.)

The following page features an archive article from the Standard 25/7/1985.

## Graham Paige — a 'what' or a 'who'? 25-7-85

(Continuing a series on Murray Bridge Auto Collectors' Club members)

Ask any youngster who is interested in cars if they have heard of a Graham Paige, and chances are they will reply 'who?'

The answer, as every vintage car enthusiast will tell you, should be 'what?', and Myponga couple Alan and Marlene Hagger probably know that better than most — they have four of them.

Only one has been fully restored, while the others — together with a Graham, two Dodge tourers and a Chevrolet roadster — still await a return to their former glory.

Alan became interested in vintage cars in his teens when he bought the Chevrolet, but it has not been out of the shed for 18 months.

'If I don't get around to restoring all of them, my son (aged six) might one day,' he said philosophically last week.

In addition to the one Graham Paige and a Dodge Brothers Six (both 1929), Alan has also restored a 1927

Capital model Chevrolet — but sold it to buy the straight-eight Graham.

Before acquiring his first Graham Paige in 1974, Alan had never heard of the marque (brand name). He saw an advertisement in a newspaper, thought he would take a look to see what it was, and fell in love with it at first sight.

'It appealed to us because we were looking for a larger sedan type, and this was one which has what is known as six-wheel equipment, with two spare wheels — one set in each front mudguard,' he said. 'It also had wire-spoked wheels and, comparatively rare in those days, a four-speed gearbox.'

Restoration took two years, and as soon as it was finished the Hagers took their first trip in it to Queensland. Proving the reliability of the lovely old car, they have since been to

Albury-Wodonga, Tasmania, Broken Hill, and done many trips towing a caravan to Wallaroo and Mildura.

'It will cruise comfortably all day at between 50 and 55 miles an hour (80 — 88km/h), and return about 18 miles a gallon,' Alan said. He estimates the car, still looking as good as new, has covered 40,000 miles since restoration.

The family's other pride and joy is the Dodge they bought in 1972, which they started restoring 10 years later and completed last year. The body and engine came from Swan Reach, differential, front end and springs from an old buckboard, and radiator and shell from an Adelaide wrecking yard.

Apart from last year's Bay/Birdwood run, the Dodge has been kept mainly for local trips — the Hagers preferring the more powerful Graham Paige for longer journeys.

Alan and Marlene are particularly proud of their efforts at restoration. Without any previous experience they have tackled the whole job themselves, learning all about painting, re-timbering and upholstery as they went — 'with handy hints from anyone prepared to give them along the way,' Alan added.



• Alan and Marlene Hagger check under the bonnets of their vintage Dodge Brothers Six (left) and Graham Paige.



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