HISTORIC TOURING TOUR TOUR OUTPUT TOUR QUE 2010

Magazine of the Historic Touring Car Association of Victoria - www.htcav.com.au





Next - Annual General Meeting

8pm Wed 30 June 2010
Upstairs at the Rising Sun Hotel
Cnr Raglan St & Eastern Rd, Sth Melbourne

Torquing Heads 2009/2010

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	Jervis Ward Gordon Cox David Floyd Russell Pilven Paul Cruse Jervis Ward Michael Hibbert David Twigg Len Read Ken Zinner Mat Jager Chris Ralph	Dean Bryant 0417 012 526 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 Gordon Cox 9467 8900 David Floyd 9574 8333 Russell Pilven 9379 2616 Paul Cruse 9345 1611 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 Michael Hibbert 9379 2018 David Twigg 0414 875 922 Len Read 5977 8771 Ken Zinner 9568 0363 Mat Jager 0409 427 667 Chris Ralph 9696 5800	Dean Bryant 0417 012 526 0417 012 526 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 9690 4338 Gordon Cox 9467 8900 9435 5235 David Floyd 9574 8333 9877 2243 Russell Pilven 9379 2616 9337 7017 Paul Cruse 9345 1611 9337 1310 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 9690 4338 Michael Hibbert 9379 2018 9379 2018 David Twigg 0414 875 922 9466 9737 Len Read 5977 8771 5977 8771 Ken Zinner 9568 0363 9568 0363 Mat Jager 0409 427 667 9740 0575 Chris Ralph 9696 5800 9596 3143	Dean Bryant 0417 012 526 0417 012 526 9551 5859 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 9690 4338 9690 4323 Gordon Cox 9467 8900 9435 5235 9467 4590 David Floyd 9574 8333 9877 2243 9574 8388 Russell Pilven 9379 2616 9337 7017 9379 0669 Paul Cruse 9345 1611 9337 1310 9690 4323 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 9690 4338 9690 4323 Michael Hibbert 9379 2018 9379 2018 David Twigg 0414 875 922 9466 9737 9702 9635 Len Read 5977 8771 5977 8771 Ken Zinner 9568 0363 9568 0363 Mat Jager 0409 427 667 9740 0575 Chris Ralph 9696 5800 9596 3143 9696 0507	Dean Bryant 0417 012 526 0417 012 526 9551 5859 0417 012 526 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 9690 4338 9690 4323 0409 137 629 Gordon Cox 9467 8900 9435 5235 9467 4590 0418 506 650 David Floyd 9574 8333 9877 2243 9574 8388 0402 257 541 Russell Pilven 9379 2616 9337 7017 9379 0669 0419 527 188 Paul Cruse 9345 1611 9337 1310 0414 937 710 Jervis Ward 9690 4321 9690 4338 9690 4323 0409 137 629 Michael Hibbert 9379 2018 9379 2018 0418 354 364 David Twigg 0414 875 922 9466 9737 9702 9635 0414 875 922 Len Read 5977 8771 5977 8771 0408 548 133 Ken Zinner 9568 0363 9568 0363 0412 171 603 Mat Jager 0409 427 667 9740 0575 0409 427 667 Chris Ralph 9696 5800 9596 3143 9696 0507 0418 318 934

Club Mailing Address PO Box 16 Chadstone Centre Victoria 3148

2010 Race Calendar

Track	Date	Туре	Club
Phillip Island Classic	April 19-21	Golden Oldie - Historic	VHRR / Mini Car Club
Phillip Island	April 17-18	State Race Series	PIARC
Winton Historics	May 29-30	Golden Oldie - Historic	Austin 7 Club
Sandown	July 24-25	State Race Series	Sports Sedan Association
Winton (Long Track)	Aug. 28-29	State Race Series	AASA
Phillip Island	Sept. 25-26	State Race Series	Mini Car Club
Sandown Historics	Nov. 6-7	Golden Oldie - Historic	VHRR / MG Car Club
Phillip Island	Nov 27-28	Special - Island Magic	PIARC

Don't Forget The Club Discounts!

As Club members you are entitled to massive discounts on a range of vehicles and parts at Booran Motors and entry fees for tarmac rallies run in Tasmania through Octagon Motorsport.

Please see elsewhere in the magazine for the details.

We get 'em, please use 'em!

See page 18 for full details!!













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From the President



At this chilly time we have a well earned break of sorts with our biggest gap between events for the year. Some of us spend the time getting ready for the next event, whilst one member was busy collecting accolades as a result of being named in the Queens Birthday honours list! Who? You say – come along to the AGM and find out!

Your Pres and Vice Pres along with 27 kids (ok it was only five but they're noisy!!) did some serious four wheel driving in the Toolangi state forest over the Queens Birthday weekend and I'm pleased to report we didn't bend or break either car but had huge fun anyway. It took about two hours of pressure washing to clean the car – that's a new record even for me!

2010 AWARDS NIGHT

OUR AWARDS NIGHT - elsewhere in the mag you will see an ad for this event. This event will allow all members of the HTCAV to attend what will be a historic night in Historic Touring Car Racing as we know it how so, you ask? This night will be the most prestigious and lavish social function/awards night ever run in this country for our category. If you want to find out what all the fuss is about I suggest you register your interest early and mark the calendar. Saturday evening 4th December 2010 at the Bayview Eden Melbourne @ 6 Queens Rd Melbourne. This venue is a step up from previous years and all for good reason! You now have the option to stay the night at the venue taking advantage of great Club discounts on this (very reasonable pricing!). Also everyone can now park 'on site' - phew what a nice change, eh. The after parties should be fun I reckon.

We have listened to many of you who have requested a return to the old days of the dinner dance type affair. We are going to achieve a good compromise by still having our awards presentations as previous years but also make those presentations more efficient thus leaving time for some music and dancing just like times of old – great stuff!

The music will be live and I'm delighted to say we have procured the fantastic 'Rank Outsiders' to play this gig for us. These guys are the real deal and will rock the joint for sure.

Just like last year the fashions on the field

will make a return seeing as it was such a huge hit last year – yes, girls and guys, this means you all have permission to buy at least one new outfit – sorry guys!

This year we expect an increase in support for this event by the colourful and interesting HTCAV Rally members – we would love to see plenty of you guys and girls at this historic event. Last year we had a taste of the sights of this genre of our sport and it was fabulous.

ELECTIONS

This month is our AGM and as such your Committee elections will be held as usual. This is a must attend if you wish to have a say in how your Club is administered for the year ahead. We also have some hot topics to discuss this month so if you want to have a say – be there this month at our new digs being the Rising Sun Hotel – what a ripper venue eh.

HISTORIC SANDOWN

This fantastic event looms as another of our premier events for the year and this year it marks the 50th anniversary of 'our' cars. There have been changes made to the rear of pit apron area and this may be where our after racing entertainment happens this year – not confirmed yet but more to say about this at the AGM.

MEMBERSHIPS

The membership target of 220 for this year looks as though it will be achieved ahead of time if the expected recovery rate of non financials occurs – hmmm – that was last months remark but we still have nearly twenty non financials and most of which would be considered 'likely' to continue – check with our membership officer Jervis if you are unsure if you have paid or not for this year.

HISTORIC WINTON

Oh dear! Whilst some of our guys had good weekends with some spirited racing and damn good driving displayed, unfortunately for me the weekend ended too soon and with a fright I must say. We have all witnessed accidents on the race track before but I must admit that my old mate Ralphy did it in such a manner that it gave many of us more than a few moments of real concern for his welfare! During the handicap race on Sunday the once pristine orange BMW did an inverted roll at the end of the sweeper. Unlike most cars who roll here this one rolled in the opposite direction and rolled many times - the exact count is yet to be determined but it was most likely 7 or 8 times in all! The car is destroyed and the expensive chrome moly roll cage did its job in protecting our mate. Ralphy is a dedicated health conscious person who possesses excellent health and strength that belies his years. These facts have allowed him to not only survive this ordeal but recover at a swift rate - you really are a remarkable person mate and we are all very glad to see you up and about and positive as always - great stuff.

Congratulations to all the winners from the weekend and a special mention to my old mate Mick Stupka who won what just may be the last Nb handicap race ever at Winton – how so you say? Come to the AGM and find out why this may be so.

HTCAV BIGGEST LOSER

Things are hotting up as Team HTCAV are preparing for the Run Melbourne fun run on the 18th July. We have five starters so far and yours truly has now lost 13kg and I'm running over 5kms per day in training for this event. Every time I walk into the workshop the new Cortina seems to be smiling at me – hmmm!

VALE DALLAS CRANE

Former HQ Association president and competitor Dallas Crane passed away this week following a short illness. The HTCAV extends its condolences to his family and friends at this sad time. Dallas was an instrumental part in our club being able to share the family days out at Calder we have enjoyed in recent years. Good club men like him are hard to find and the HQ Association has indeed suffered a large and sad loss – our thoughts are with them.

AGM MEETING

This month is our AGM so please make the effort to be part of this important meeting for our club. I'm pleased to announce that this year our returning officer will be Club stalwart Peter Sneddon who will take charge of the club as required during the AGM. After the official part of the meeting we have several important issues to discuss as follows:

Handicap races – let's see what the general feeling is so we can advise the Austin 7 Club what we require for next year.

Tyres – this will be hotly debated! The question of a control tyre has been mooted and I'll give a guideline of what questions this raises on the night so we can have input from the members on this issue. This is not an urgent issue but one that needs to be discussed going forward as some tyre sizes are becoming impossible to procure.

Safety guidelines – a new initiative from the Committee and the details of which will be discussed. It covers such things as primary safety in cars and neck support devices – this is a huge topic but preliminary discussions are warranted.

No doubt we'll have some ripper dvds to watch after the meeting as well – how good was the Cascone/Moran battle from last month – ripper stuff!

COMMITTEE

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Committee for its excellent service over the previous year. It is an honour to work with such a fine group of dedicated and experienced enthusiasts. Special thanks to Paul Cruse for his fine efforts during his time on the Committee, Paul will continue to prepare the Speed Championship scoring – great stuff. The Club has been in very good hands and I'm sure this will continue with the next Committee also.

I look forward to seeing plenty of you at The Rising Sun on Wednesday,

Yours in racing,

Deano

Editoro



They called Derryn Hinch "the Human Headline" for making himself the news, instead of just reporting and commenting on it. Welcome folks, to the Editor's very own special edition of Torque regarding his spectacular aerial acrobatics at Historic Winton. Well, I gotta get something out of it... 15 minute packages of fame come at a price.

So, where to start? I've written an article elsewhere that tries to be more analytical and possibly helpful, but I'd like to deal with the softer issues in this Editoro. Firstly, sorry about mucking up the Nc handicap, delaying the meeting, and giving onlookers a bit of a fright. Thanks to everyone who helped Deano, Russ, Peter Backhouse and Paul Cruse and others put the scrapings back on the trailer and transfer all the race crap into my tow vehicle.

Especial thanks to our King Size President, whose legendary duty of care responsibilities came into play, carting the bruised hero back down the Hume, unloading said crap into the factory, returning tow car, finding own way home, then ringing daily to check on the recovery. As I said on the blog, should been a parson. Well credentialled: the big fella can talk the hind leg off a table/donkey/iron pot: "Another cup of tea? Why thank you Mrs McGillicuddy, don't mind if I do, and oh thanks, a lovely biscuit..." Perhaps if he stands outside the monthly meetings shaking the paws of the congregation as they leave ("Thank you for coming, hope you enjoyed the service, see you again next month, etc") we might get a better turn up...

The outstanding level of concern from the Club has been very touching and I'd like to thank everyone for their wishes. The amount of calls, emails, texts was amazing – the Read Family even sent me a get well card containing a scratchie, but as I'd overdrawn all luck reserves I didn't think I'd collect, and guess what, I didn't. (The wife dragged me along to the neddies last weekend, didn't trouble the bookie's payout clerk there, either.)

The calls of good cheer that I've received

from the broader historic and motor racing community have also been very touching: conclusion - we are all fortunate to be in a great club in the best part of a wonderful sport. (Now I really am starting to sound like Dean...).

I've been asked what it was like, what did I think at the time etc. Well, a rollover had been missing from my CV and as it started to happen I thought 'looks like I've ticked that box now'. As the first two rolls were airborne I thought that it was all rather gentle, then, kerthump! It whacked the ground very, very hard and that was a bit of a shock; I imagined that it would clunk over a couple of times and just sort of stop.

But it started to gain speed and violence and I was a loose rock in a concrete mixer. There was a brief moment when I thought that it might actually be getting a bit serious because I just kept flogging around in there; I shut my eyes and rode it out.

When it finally came to rest I did a mental check. (Alive? Check. Unhurt? Check.) I opened my eyes and looked into a helmeted face (not sure who) that suggested I turn it off. Good point, I said, and did so. I heard later that someone saw me adjusting the mirror (absolutely, have to keep up presentation, old boy...) but I was just seeing it would come off so I could climb out the windscreen hole. It didn't.

but I did anyway.

The emergency guys were right on to it and held me motionless and upright until the doc arrived. Top marks for accident response and medical attention, of course I couldn't see what the fuss was about and wanted to walk back to the pits - wonderful thing, adrenalin. Thanks to all the racers who stopped and rushed to my aid...

To see the rollover from the following Mazda of Chaser Numble, try this link

http://www. youtube.com/ watch?v=z5wu1LfrxSY . Thanks, Jason!

Hungry when I started the handicap, I could have eaten a baby's bum through a tennis racquet when released from Wangaratta Base Hospital at 6.30pm.

Never had Golden Arches crap food looked so appealing... Jollied along by pain killers and jolly President on the way home I even managed to catch the Turkish Grand Prix on One HD that night. Two and half weeks later the ribs are still sore but the dizziness that I had on lying down/getting up has all but gone...

Getting the spare shell down off the shelf, crack testing a few bits and pieces, and back on the horse. In the meantime I might punt the silver car very gently around Sandown, we'll have to see.

Thanks to dazzlin' Darren Knight for the Winton report, for the continued support of Steve Duggan at sdpics.com – check to see if your car is listed there. I have also sneakily downloaded some Neil Hammond and Mick Price shots from the Historic Winton website – worth a look at - www.historicwinton. org/gallery3.htm and from scephoto, which has some good stuff http://scephoto.com/historicwinton10cars/ f>

Thanks to Mat Jager for the consistently funny CarMa Report and to Paul Reynolds' rage against the machine that runs us – The Nanny State – and to all other contributors.

See you all at our posh new digs for the ANNUAL GENERAL MEEETING next Wednesday!

RalphE



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No tickets issued on the night.

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34th Historic Winton

The wet stuff returned to Winton after several successive years of glorious weather. Thankfully snorkels and flippers were not required by those without a garage in the Jurassic-era paddock like they were some time ago, although gumboots would have been handy. A wet track for practice gave way to slightly drier conditions for racing on Saturday afternoon with the threat of rain prompting some to roll the dice by gridding up with wets under the car.

Nb

Lindsay Siebler started his newly acquired ex Greg Malaure Cooper S on pole in race one and led all the way on a damp, greasy track to take a narrow win from Nick Cascone (Cortina) who pushed hard all the way. Phil Reynolds (Mini) bagged third after jumping eventual fourth place finisher Henry Draper early on with Jason Armstrong (Mini) fifth after overcoming Len Read (Mini) who was struggling with a few niggles in the #5. Ian Pringle (Mini) was almost alongside at the finish in seventh with Colin Doolan





(Cortina) next then the amazing Imp of Jerry Lenstra who started back in 16th. Paul Zazryn (Mk. II Jag) rounded out the top ten.

Imp power returned for the handicap with Mick Stupka taking the win from

Linda Devlin (Mini) who drove an outstanding race to take second. Helen Lindner (Mini) also drove a great race and looked set for a podium until a half spin at the esses put paid to that. Anthony Ramadge was third from fellow Mini men Pete Melick and Rob Ford.

Siebler again got the jump for the final scratch race but was soon caught and passed by a resurgent Draper who went on to add yet another Winton Historic victory to his long and distinguished record. Armstrong set fastest lap on his way to second place in front of Siebler with Cascone fourth. Zazryn was an excellent fifth after pulling off a great move by getting past Reynolds, Ramadge, Read and Pringle in one go as the four Minis argued amongst themselves exiting turn one. Pringle ended up sixth then Read, Ramadge, Reynolds and Darren Burns (Mini).

Nc

Pole man Wayne Seabrook (Porsche) hooked up nicely to leap into an early lead while the RX-2s of Jason Humble and Ben Read rocketed off the line on a very cold track under threatening skies. A clash





between the Toranas of Gary Edwards and Alf Bargwanna at the sweeper put the former out whilst the latter retired after a few laps with overheating following the crash damage. Rob Burns (Charger) reeled in Humble and moved into second which is where he finished behind the winner Seabrook, Mick Donaher (Camaro) climbed to third after qualifying 11th with Humble fourth then Russell Pilven (Datsun 1600) who had to hang on hard after his wets went squishy after the predicted rain failed to materialise. Read was next then Tony Hubbard (Camaro), Rod Hotchkin (Falcon), Michael Hibbert (Charger) and John Bourke (Torana).

The handicap got off to an unfortunate start and just got worse. The first start was waved off after the Brendan Hare Capri overheated and stalled, a fate that also befell Hubbard after the field formed up again, following the event's first red flag after the Camaro of Michael Donaher went off at Turn 1. After the lengthy delays a decision was made to start the race in one group instead of at the handicap intervals which would have pushed the whole event even further behind. On the first flying lap following the restart the Chris Ralph BMW was thrown into a series of violent rolls midway through the sweeper, scattering the field and bringing the red

flags out again. Humble and several other drivers immediately pulled over and rushed to check on Chris who was shaken but thankfully unharmed save for a suspected cracked rib. The Bimmer was totally destroyed.

A reduced final scratch race saw Burns take a close win over Seabrook with the Charger looking very neat and tidy around the tight confines of the short circuit. Donaher was third in front of Hubbard who pushed extremely hard, setting the fastest lap in his pursuit of his fellow Chev pilot but lost ground after several lurid slides exiting the esses. Hibbert was fifth then the incredible Datto of Pilven followed by Fraser Ross in the ex Drew Marget `68 Mustang in his first visit to Winton in the former Biante Series race winner. Ross started 14th and will be one to watch. Bourke was eighth then Hotchkin and Peter Burchell (Mustang) who just held out Leo Tobin (Mustang) at the finish.

Darren Knight

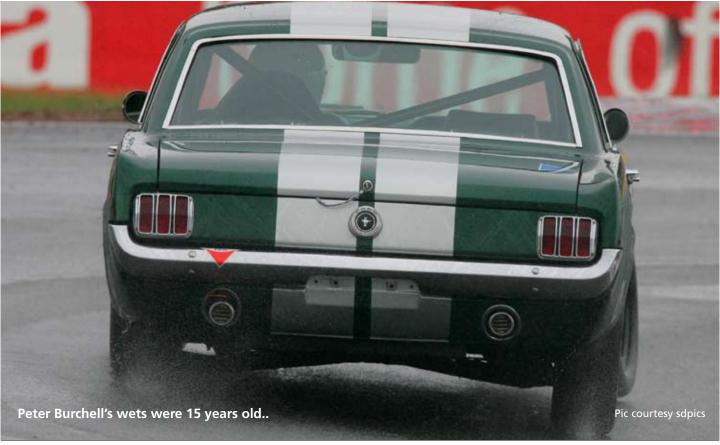




































Anatomy of a rollover

I rolled my car, big time. Eight times they say, six on camera from the video and it was still going when it went out of frame. But what can we take out of this exercise?

Why did it happen?

Because I didn't spend enough time to actually sort the rear end out on a practice day. The car had never handled well at the back and I was always chasing its tendency to hop. Because it was just a handicap I tried something different and wound the bump up, keeping rebound lower. Too stiff. Had it been a practice day I would have come in after one lap but I kept going because it was a race. Lesson: don't try new things on race day.

How did it happen?

As I was exiting the Winton sweeper the two bumps there upset the back and it hopped to the right. This set the car on track to hit the left hand kerb precisely at the angle a stunt driver might use on a ramp to get his car on two wheels. New unbuffed Toyo 888 tyres with fat shoulders dug in and away she went. Lesson: don't keep driving on the money if the car is mishandling.

How did the cage hold up?

ROPS builders have looked at the cage and said it failed because there is some distortion at the weld points on the A pillar passenger side. I'll take that fail, thanks, good enough for me. The cage was chromemoly FIA spec that raised a few eyebrows when presented for its log book because "it had too many bars to look historic". The centre hoop, rear bars and driver's side are all in place. The cage was tagged at the centre hoop and A pillars. I wonder how a minimum spec cage would have stood up. Lesson: if you're building a car, don't skimp on the cage for reasons of money or weight. If you run a half cage, put the extra bars in please.

How did the seat mounts hold up?

At the time of build I had to fight to mount the seats on bars that were run from sill bars laterally to the transmission tunnel. The Historic Commission didn't like this practice because apparently some had used



the "mounting of seats to the roll cage" as a cheat to make a de facto chassis. The seats did not move at all, again I wonder what would have happened if they were on original sheet metal mounts or the floor. Thanks to Russell Pilven's Essendon Tyrepower larger plates under the seat belt mounts had been added. Lesson: Seat mounting is absolutely critical, find a way to make them as secure as possible.

How did the driver hold up?

Pretty good. The driver's door came open and folded up. Something must have given me a prod in the right side because there's some bruising there around the ribs, maybe a hairline crack but that didn't show up in the X-rays. There are tiny bits of calcium carbonate in your ears called otoconia and when you get whizzed about they can come out in the inner ear canals and cause dizziness when you lie down etc - this fades. But for the second time the humble foam neck collar that I have worn since 1994 has saved my neck. Lesson: do not drive your race/rally car without neck support: HANS device, Liatt Brace, whatever – but at the very least a foam neck collar. This is critical.

What happened after the accident?:

I was asked to complete a full accident report for AIMSS (Australian Institute of Motor Sport Safety) including comprehensive photography of the wreck and bend points on the cage. The wreck was then inspected by the CAMS Historic Commission (Graeme Hoinville)

who took further photographs. Lesson: there may be some alterations to cage and seat mounting advice/requirements for historic motor sport in the future. The old adage "we're not racing for sheep stations (implied: so it's better to look historic than look safe)" may come under review.

Note: It is possible to extend your laid up insurance on your competition car for some recompense if there is a serious accident on track. It's not cheap and if you pay the premiums over the years you'll come out square anyway. Not promoted, but the policy is available if you ask the Gogomobil people very nicely...

RalphE





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The Bean Counter's Report Historic Touring Car Association Of Victoria Inc.

Greetings everyone. A few words to accompany the financial statements that are enclosed with this issue: During the year I have again kept the Treasurer's reports at our general meetings fairly brief and relied on magazine articles every few months to keep members informed of where we are at financially. I feel that is a better way of communicating such matters. The level of reporting at the committee meetings is a lot more detailed with a list of monies in and out for the month tabled, income and expenditure statements for events such as the annual dinner and marquees/garages and quarterly financial statements tabled. This allows the committee to measure various matters and then make informed decisions about similar future events.

Our financial year ends on 31 May. The financial statements comprise the income and expenditure and the balance sheet both with prior year comparatives. At the AGM I shall briefly discuss both documents.

In closing I would like reiterate how good it has been to be a member of the club and serve on the committee. I have only been in the club 5 years and have been Treasurer for that time. I have decided to do it for another year and am looking forward to it and working with the committee and fellow members.

1/6/09 - 31/05/10 1/6/08 - 31/5/09

David Floyd

Income	& I	Expend	liture	Statement
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Income Advertising Annual Dinner (Net) Interest Received Marquee Costs (Net) Subscriptions Total Income Apparel Sales of Apparel Opening Stock - at cost	2,625.00 635.83 696.14 802.32 19,205.00 23,964.29	787.40 1,364.94 838.00 17,950.00 23,490.34 1,465.00
Purchases of Apparel	-1,494.90	-2,376.00
Closing Stock - at cost	5,057.90	
Surplus on Apparel	68.90	171.10
Total Income & Apparel re	esult 24,033.19	23,661.44
Expenses		
Annual Trophies	5,332.57	5,421.58
Audit Fees	600.00	0.00
Bank Charges	232.60	
CAMS Fees	1,005.00	
Childrens' Christmas Party	228.00	
Depreciation	568.36	
Donations	0.00	
Filing Fees	107.00	
General Expenses	72.20	
Internet & Website Costs	720.11	
Magazine Costs	7,422.70	
Marketing & Promotion	2,839.91 2,429.80	
Printing & M/ship Costs Race Meeting Nibbles (Net)		
Social events - other	199.10	
oociai events other	1,7,.10	170.00
Total Expenses	21,790.22	22,168.24
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$2,242.97	\$1,493.20

Balance Sheet	31/05/10	31/05/09
Assets		
Cash on Hand	75.00	75.00
Cheque Account	1,293.68	2,097.36
Term Deposit	18,882.44	18,348.72
ESANDA Debenture	0.00	1,123.45
ANZ V2S Part 1	4,487.88	5,478.69
ANZ V2S Part 2	1,123.45	0.00
ANZ V2S subtotal	5,611.33	5,478.69
Total Cash funds	25,862.45	27,123.22
Apparel on Hand - at cost	5,057.90	4,320.10
Advertising Debtors	2,425.00	825.00
Sundry Debtors & Prepayme	ents 2,535.00	5,983.46
Total Current Assets	35,880.35	38,251.78
Equipment at Cost	6,548.58	1,601.68
Equipment Accum. Dep'n.	-1,236.66	-668.30
Equipment at w.d.v.	5,311.92	933.38
Total Assets	41,192.27	39,185.16
Liabilities		
Sundry Creditors	0.00	235.86
Net Assets	\$41,192.27	\$38,949.30
Members' Funds		
Surplus b/f	38,949.30	37,456.10
Current Year's Surplus	2,242.97	1,493.20
Total Members' Funds	\$41,192.27	\$38,949.30

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CAR STEREO REPAIRS

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The Nanny State

You know it's lurking everywhere. Every time you stray one lousy kilometre over the speed limit (nobody can walk that slow) you can feel the unseen eyes. Nanny is watching with condescending Orwellian eyes. Nanny will tsk tsk at you with a load of patronising moralising. Nanny runs this state and the State of Affairs is sad.

Then there was that completely incompetent driver that put thousands of lives at risk with that bastion of evil throwback – the wheelie. Just because he is one of the most accomplished modern drivers how dare he think positively about himself, and anyway don't you know how many people have died over the years from wheelies? (pronounced in a hysterical voice).

Nanny smacked Lewis as he was a naughty little boy. His friend Mark bravely came to the rescue because naughty Lewis was in his back yard. Nanny gave Mark a lecture, was horrified when Mark called Nanny a Nanny as she doesn't like her neurosis to be exposed publicly. But what she hates most is the audacity of people acting like they are rational compassionate and skilled human beings, surely such behaviour will cause the end of society. It is a shame that nobody has told Nanny she has had dementia for 2 decades and is need of urgent psychiatric assistance.

Of course all the gweedos jumped in and whipped up a load of hysteria with all the cheap shots. But funnily enough when the international media came looking for them to call Lewis a "dickhead" on camera, they all went strangely quiet? Perhaps the WhoReallyIsTheDickheadHereoMeter went off and they realised they would be the laughing stock of the world, so they crawled back under their dark rock of fear.

Demonising and marginalising has always been an effective tool of the NSGs (Nanny State Gweedos). Like the Church in medieval times (and the medieval throwbacks who now terrorise the globe) NSGs play the man not the ball. Vain grandstanding and picking on soft targets is cowardly stuff that has somehow self legitimised. We have always had this personality type in society but today we have a drone bloat and they have destroyed our traditional egalitarian culture.

Tragically we have inadvertently empowered an entire generation of drones who now spend all their time telling us what we can't do anymore. All they know



is how weak minded they are and isn't the rest of the world like that, so therefore they shouldn't be allowed to do anything, unless you pay for a permit.

I thought I might use some well known cognitive bias concepts to demonstrate the failure of society to provide an environment that can promote balanced natural mental growth.

- Bandwagon effect: doing or believing things because many others do or believe the same.
- Dunning-Kruger 'double' effect: incompetent people make incompetent decisions then are too incompetent to see it. Also known as politics!
- Groupthink: Avoidance of viewpoints outside comfortable consensus thinking.
- **Self-fulfilling prophecy:** acting to achieve results that confirm our beliefs.
- The Texas sharpshooter fallacy: a logical fallacy where unrelated information is manipulated until it

- appears to have meaning. From a joke about a Texan who fires shots at the side of a barn, then paints a target around the biggest cluster of hits and claims to be a sharpshooter.
- Flaccid Gweedo: person of dubious genitalia mass attempting to disguise this by demonising the trivial from their soapbox of hypocrisy and cognitive retardation.

The Nanny State is living in complete avoidance and promotes paradox and intolerance. Expose their fundamental dysfunctionality! Take the piss! Fight for individual rights! Fill the beehive with drone flushing blue smoke. But don't pull a wheelie in your C63 when the cops are watching...

In the next article I will show how Nanny is actually making the roads more dangerous, NOT safer and how it is the classic fast car guys that are one of the few hopes for young people.

Paul Reynolds



Winton Festival of Speed

As you may be aware, the VHRR is holding the historic Winton Festival of Speed on the long track on the 13th, 14th and 15th of August.

The Club had originally decided to support this event when it was scheduled for an earlier date. But it was moved to midway between the already committed State Rounds of July 24-25 at Sandown and Winton long track on August 28/29.

This was likely to weaken attendance at both these State Rounds and so the VHRR event was regretfully not included in our Race Championship calendar.

Races for Nb/Nc are on offer or these can be converted to sprints if there is insufficient support, and if so results would contribute to your Speed Championship pointscore. Entry forms are available at www.vhrr.com and on the desk at this next General Meeting. If you want to compete Winton Raceway will allow you to keep your car, trailer and gear in a garage for the two weeks to the State Round later in the month.

Historic meetings are our first priority, it is unfortunate that this one came along so late, but we will support the meeting 100% in 2011.

State Round in July?

You won't be sent an entry form!

Victorian State Circuit Racing Championships, Round 3 Sandown

23rd – 25th July 2010 Organised By The Australian Sports Sedan Association.

HTCAV members are not doing round 2 at Sandown, so you will not receive an entry form for round 3 in the mail. (So do not go looking in your letter box for one!)

You need to download the entry form and supp regs from our website **www.htcav.com.au**

If the term "download" or "website" drawers a blank expression, see the inside front cover of this magazine for a committee member's phone number and one of those good lads will post you one.

For other enquiries about Round 3, please call the Race Secretary Gale Smith

AH 03 9763 7811 or Email: crges@bigpond.com.au

Enter early and you may even get a garage. Enter from about mid June onwards, and all the garages will be booked out. History has proved that!

New meeting venue!

Due to several circumstances the HTCAV general meetings will now take place Upstairs at the Rising Sun Hotel, Cnr Raglan St & Eastern Rd, South Melbourne. Only a few blocks from Bell's. See you there!



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Gasolene TV now on Digital 44

A dedicated car show for Car Enthusiasts

Gasolene is a unique car focused television program for the car enthusiast. Unlike other programs of today that seem to be more biased towards general entertainment Gasolene provides hardcore car information & features including Muslecars, Classics, Informative technical segments, History & all types of motoring events from historic racing to car shows.

Together Producer Michael Curson & Presenter Glenn Everitt combine years of knowledge in the automotive industry & car enthusiast scene to deliver an informative, exciting & action packed show, a show that must not be missed for the die hard car fan, a show you've all been waiting for. In fact you could say that "Gasolene is truly for Enthusiasts by Enthusiasts". There's no scripting or acting required, only the passion & knowledge they have for anything propelled by an engine. Tune in now for the all new 2010 Gasolene digital season on Digital 44 Australia wide, it's sure to be a big one.

For more information feel free to check out our website at http://www.gasolene.tv/

The support of the car enthusiast community & hence strong ratings is imperative for our future existence to allow us to provide a marketing tool help fund & produce Gasolene to the highest standards. As 44 is a community based station it takes a healthy investment just to air the program. Although we appreciate the opportunity it is the opposite of mainstream where programs are paid to provide a show to them. We hope to provide what we believe to be

Australia's best ever car show for some time to come. Please help spread the word & feel free to pass on this email to any friends, family or car club members & groups.

Be aware that in many cases TV's will need to be rescanned or auto tuned to pick up 44 and any other new digital stations currently being released. A high quality aerial installation may also be required for 44 and all digital stations in general for quality reception. To many peoples surprise digital is not as forgiving as analogue when it comes to reception. Once set up for digital the benefits are well worth it. See www.digitalready.gov.au for further information.

We appreciate any support you can provide in spreading the word.

The team at Gasolene will be forever thankful.

Best Regards,

The Gasolene Team

Contact Producer Michael Curson for any further details on 0404026286 or michael@gasolene.tv

Air times on Digital 44

- * C31 Melbourne 8:30pm Tuesday nights - Digital 44
- * TVS 31 Sydney 8:00pm Thursday nights Digital 44
- * Briz31 Brisbane 8:30pm Thursday nights - Digital 44
- * WTV Perth 6:00pm Sunday nights Digital 44
- * C31 Adelaide 7:30 Monday nights – Analogue 31



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2010 Pointyscore

	Hist	SRS	Hist	SRS	SRS	SRS	Hist	ls M	Int'	Total
NC	P.I.	P.I.	Wtn	Sdn	Wtn	P.I.	Sdn	P.I.	St	iotai
Over 5000cc										
Mat Jager										0
Darren Collins										0
Michael Miceli Leon Bell		3								3 0
Karl Wittick	34									34
Tony Hubbard			32							32
Daryl Duff										0
Rodney Hotchkin	27	21	27							75
Andrew Tickner		26								26
										0
										0
2501 5000										0
3501-5000 Robert Braune										0
Michael Bugelly										0
Paul Dobson			19							19
Glenn Miles										0
Jody Mason										0
Darren Pearce										0
Geoff Taylor	3	15								18
Michael Hibbert	33		36							69
Andrew Whiteside Gary O'Brien	7									- 7
John Mann	46									46
Bradley Westaway	- 10	19								19
James Frolley										0
Peter Burchell			23							23
Robert Burns			39							39
lan Cromarty	3									3
Craig Miles	3									3
Leo Tobin Les Walmsley	21 33	33	23							77 44
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2009 AGM minutes

Annual general meeting HTCAV June 2009 Bells Hotel South Melbourne Meeting opened at 8.25pm with around 40 in attendance.

APOLIGIES

Elliot Barbour, Bill Cutler, Graham & Scott Slater, Lindsay Cripps ,Marty Lambert, Kenny Corporate , Justin Brown ,Mark Brewster and the Holloways.

GUESTS

Keith Davidson (Engine builder to the stars!)

NEW MEMBERS

Craig Miles (Charger)

SECRETARY - Gordon Cox

Correspondence from MBE, OzChild, ANZ Make a Wish.

Other than that, thanks for having me.

PRESIDENT - Dean Bryant

First order of business was to crown King Fast of Luxmore (don't know what this was all about)

Last months raffle winners; Bob and Simon were presented with their lobsters.

Some Italian chap from NSW has been groanin and a moanin about something Ralphy wrote in the mag. Well good luck Mussolini, Ralph's a dab hand at a mass debate!

The 5th of December will be the night for the HTCAV night of nights.

Historic Winton was a great event. The soup was very nice apparently. Thanks Dean I got none AGAIN!

Condolences to the Barbours on their loss. Dean suggested a discussion on Historic Winton Handicapped during general

Great racing at Winton other than the crash in NB and the absolute shemozzles NC handicap! After one of our members had his log book marked for an apparent indiscretion, the committee wrote to CAMS for a please explain and they revised the decision, had the entry removed and then counselled the officials involved. A victory for the little fella.

The handicap races were not well run and the griding was a bit of a mess. It is the responsibility of the organisers to grid the cars correctly, and ensures that the starting procedure is adhered to. However it is also a drivers responsibility to know what grid position he /she is starting off, handicap or not. A bit of fault on both sides here. Dean thanked the committee for their work during the past year, hard or not and said that he is pleased about the sometimes spirited discussion that goes on at some of the committee meetings. Didn't say anything about the boozing or endless chatter from Jervis!

The reduced number of available meetings this year has produced healthy numbers and good close racing. Perhaps the mix is right.

VICE PREZ - Jervis Ward

Jervis thanked Dean for a job well done. There have been lots of problems this year and the Big Fella has taken them in his stride. Competitors are happy it seems to seek help from the committee when needed. Congratulations to all involved. Jervis also asked about his long service

Jervis also asked about his long service entitlements and his preference would be to take it all in cash.

TREASURER - David Floyd

David says "when you want to look at the figures? Don't look at the figures!" We are a racing club with 200 members. We have our books audited every two years. Last years figures have been audited and the auditor says they are well done.

We are in a financially sound position. Due to a technical glitch the figures were not printed in the last mag.

We had a small surplus for the year of about \$1400.00

Not a lot of money, but we are here to make friendsnot money!

Moved Pilven

Seconded Hollywood

MEMBERSHIP - Jervis Ward

Competition 171 Non financial 9 Life and honorary 6 social 32 total 209. A record. A very good sign under tough economic conditions.

COMPETITION - Russell Pilven

Next meeting is the Sandown State round. 11 entries at this stage so please enter if you can. Entries close on the 8th July. No garages will be available as they were all gone before we received our entries. Unfortunately this can not be rectified and marquee spots are \$380 each so just get wet. Hats and beanies will be available shortly

POINT SCORE

Where it's at now.

Big Bangers Hubbard Mid bangers Hibbert Toranas Taranto NC babies Holloway NB babies Stupka Minis Draper Corties Cascone Old Farts Southouse EH Roy Wilkinson, John Bourke Big Heads **Jervis**

ELIGIBILITY - David Twigg (twitter with the twigger)

David reported that the cambered rear axle problem had all been cleaned up with no troubles. (Yeah that's what Zig N Zag used to say)

The production car mob had a meeting and

spec sheets are being produced.

Twiggy is rumoured to be the new coach at North Melbourne, at least he was dressed like he is!

David would also like some information on Chevy Novas.

AHTCA - Mat Jager

Mat reports it has been a pretty quiet year, after the tyre issues have been sorted. Rugby scores 18 nil.

HISTORIC COMMISSION

Nothing of significance involving group N. We are seen by the commission as a very stable category that looks after itself to a certain degree.

The HTCAV is held in very high regard around the country

Bob also added that Bill Cutler is a stand out member of the Historic Commission. (He is 8'6" tall)

MAGAZINE - Chris Ralph

A full twelve issues for the calendar year. Thanks to Jervis for all his help and hard work. Thanks also to all the contributors with a particular thanks to Mat Jager, a funny man indeed. Brian Dermott for his rally ravings and it will bear fruit with more members for our club in the long term. The speed championship is gaining momentum. Ralphy also told of his intention to have a crack at tarmac by entering the Targa Wrest Point.

He also told of his ongoing war of words with this Volari the concreter from Kings Bloody Cross!

WEBSITE - Jervis Ward

We are sending out 200 magazines through the post. Isn't it time to receive yours by email and save the club a shipload of cash? Jervis reported 1509 downloads of our magazine last month. (Sounds like bullshit to me)

The third largest group of visitors to the web site were lonely Russian women Lookink for husband to drink wodka vis darlink!

SOCIAL - Mick Hibbert

Kids Christmas party will be on Sunday November 29. Car rally on October 18. Presentation night December 5th.

RAFFLE WINNERS

With Mark Shatz as the Barrel Bitch, the winners were----

Russ Pilven and Bob Cracknell.. Good luck with the salmonella fellas!

GENERAL BUSINESS

A bit of waffle about Winton Historics and an election.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Ms Gordon Cox

Smalls on the mend, Slater under treatment

John Smallman, he of the immaculate blue BDA Escort, has had a rather unpleasant time lately, having had a tumor removed from his pituitary gland, which is up in behind the centre of the eyebrows.

Tumors there can press on the optic nerves and affect vision, apart from causing headaches, lethargy, nausea and various other stuff. All of this John suffered, but now his vision is getting better daily and he is looking forward to what he calls "his second life". Poor bugger couldn't even celebrate turning 70 in the middle of this miserable episode.

When Smalls thought he wasn't going to make it pre-op he rushed around to his factory with a whole bunch of tags and sticky notes, putting values on some items, indicating which bit goes with which, and so on.

Must be something to do with the racer's training in getting everything ready for the big meeting. When Graham Slater also thought he might DNF, he set about making a video for the funeral in which

he thanked all his family and mates... Luckily neither of those pre-emptive bits of organizing have been needed. Graham has passed scrutineering and is now up on the hoist in the home garage for a while having an oil change or two with a couple of trick additives being popped in there as well.

We wish them both a speedy and full recovery and look forward to their grid positions being filled once

again.



If you haven't paid your 2010 membership renewal, then you won't have got this newsletter and won't know why!

All membership cards have been mailed out. But you won't know that either 'cos your cheque is

not lost in the mail, it's just not been sent!

If you're telepathic ring Jervis on 0409 137 629 or email him at members@htcav.com.

Deals for HTCAV members

The HTCAV-Booran deal at a glance

New cars

- _Holden
- HSV
- Suzuki
- Citroen- Peugeot
- Fiat

You pay invoice price only and Booran Holden rebates money to OzChild.

Used Cars

You pay cost price after they have prepared them for sale and Booran Holden rebates money to OzChild.

Parts

You pay invoice price only.

What you have to do

- -Make sure you show your current Club Membership Card to establish your bona fides.
- Make sure you say the word "Oz Child".
- Thank them very, very much.

Their details

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1212 Nepean Highway Cheltenham 3192 Phone: (03) 9584 3333 Fax: (03) 9584 4285

Booran Holden Dandenong

25 Lonsdale Street Dandenong 3175 Phone: (03) 9794 5455 Fax: (03) 9792 4871

Booran Holden Caulfield:

1234 Glenhuntly Road, Caulfield 3163 Phone: (03) 9571 9313 Fax: (03) 9571 7860

Cranbourne Holden

217A South Gippsland Hwy Cranbourne, 3977

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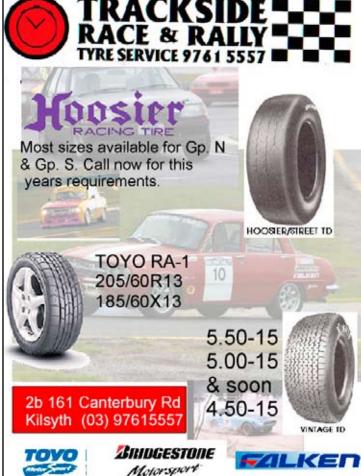




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Torquing 'Em Up - Classifieds are free!



Group A BMW E30 M3

The real deal! CAMS and NZ CofD. Ex '87 JPS Bathurst Car, '88 Brock Richards Mobil. '90 2 litre Tourer. '93 2ltr Bathurst winner. New Slicks and wets on rims. Rims have been pulled apart, crack tested, blackdye-chromated repainted and rebuilt. All suspension pulled down, inpected, crack-tested and rebuilt with new bolts and rose joints. Hubs pulled down and rebuilt. 1st outright 2010 Phillip Island Classic. Rare 6sp Getrag - Prodrive straight-cut dogbox. New FIA Fuel Cell. Original log books tracinig full history. Racing weight 1040kg. Ready to go NOW. Can be raced in Sports Sedans as well as Group A racing. \$295,000 Jervis 0409 137 629.

Is it Weber or Webber?

Well I can tell you that a WEBBER is now an Australian F1 racing driver and also a type of duck (webbed feet?), and a WEBER is one of those Italian made devices a lot of us use on our race cars to mix air with that highly priced and inflammable liquid called petrol. I can help you get the most out of yours at a reasonable cost. If you need help with linkage setup, supply or tuning please call Len Read at Racepoint Developments 5977 8771 or 0408548133.

Ford Capri doors

1 left & 1right, very good condition, \$380neg. for the pair Contact Andrew Tickner 0419 557 226

Your ad could go here! Wow!



GTHO

For sale, 1970 xw GTHO phase two replica. Huge h/p 351 cleveland, brand new close ratio 31 spline top loader, tilton clutch

and hydro thrust , hurst shifter, gold track diff, all sorted and ready to race, podium finish every time, very low maintainence, bulletproof car. Gotta go as new project ready to start.

Ask around then call Michael Miceli 0148 386 727 VIC # 69

1964 Studebaker Lark Group 'N' racer



Fresh big HP 283 Chev c/w top quality internals & workmanship. Freshly painted,4 spd T10, newish LSD, BGT brakes & many

spares. Bathurst 2.47, Phillip Island 2.00. Strong safe car easily converted for road / tarmac rally. Trade ins possible! Gordon 0418 270 494 (02)60328190 AH.



Twin Cam Escort

Genuine CK49 shell 3/72 194hp L block Quaiffe straight cut gearbox Ford Motorsport diff 7inch hotwires extremely well presented group Nc car with CAMS Log Book.Car is ready to race contact David Noakes 0407 928 121

Eastern Creek 1.56 Phillip Island 2.00 Bathurst 1.54 Sandown 1.32 car capable of quicker times



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Page 20 June 2010 Historic Touring Torque

Torquing 'Em Up - Classifieds are free!



1959 FC- Holden Group Nb "No. 53"

Australia's only FC with a current logbook, which it has had for the past 27yrs. Ready to race. An immaculate well-sorted car with a Zinner gearbox. A rare model, it is sure to appreciate in value strongly. Reluctant sale. POA. Contact Brendan for more info BH: 03 5996 5040 AH: 03 5998 3787.



Group Nc Porsche 2.3 litre

Upgraded from 1971 911E to European Le Mans lightweight 911ST 2.3 litre specification

at great expense by top Sydney Porsche workshop Autohaus Hamilton over nearly 5 years. Around 220 bhp twin plug fuel injected 2.3 litre engine includes all the best internals.

Pinned lightweight crankcase, lightweight Pauter conrods, high comp JE pistons, RSR 906 cams, Carrera 3.2 oil pump, gas flowed cyl heads, stainless valves & Vmax valve springs, close ratio 901 gearbox (with modified shift kit), limited slip differential, "race" suspension incl Konis and torsion bars etc. The engine was completely rebuilt 2,000 km ago and runs on BP98 Octane pump fuel. Fibreglass, perspex and lightweight factory panels (car weighs under 900 kg) and includes 7 x 15" Minilite style wheels, Momo racing seats with 2 x full harness race seat belts and fully approved roll cage. A new stainless (dyno tuned) special twin pipe long primary extractor exhaust was also fitted in Feb 2009 by Autohaus Hamilton with even more performance gains (particularly torque). Gearbox rebuilt with better ratios at the same time to suit the engine characteristics. All invoices available. \$100,000 ono. Robert Tweedie 0408 162 762.

http://www.ibcholdings.com.au/cars/index.html



1968 Mustang Grp Nc

Built from sand-blasted straight shell. 2 pack blue paint inside and out. Welded in Race-Tec tubing certified cage. Good seat with matching passenger seat. 302 mexican block. 4 downdraft webers, roller

cam, electronic ignition, gilmer belt drive pulleys, aluminium radiator, oil cooler, 485 hp @7100 and 400 ft /lbs torque (Gene Cook dyno). Just had total freshen up. Dyno hrs only. Trick big diameter jet hot coated headers, close ratio short ext housing. Zinner top loader just refreshened by Ken. Rose jointed hurst comp+ shifter, hydraulic throw out bearing, triple plate clutch with 3 new tilton plates, full floater, 9 inch diff fitted with 3.7 Tru Trac centre and finned drums. Over ride rear track rods (legal on 68) 31 spline axles. Kelsey Hayes front calipers, adjustable balance bar, carbon kevlar pads, brake ducting front and rear, GT Falcon rear brakes with carbon kevlar shoes. 2 way adjustable Koni shocks front and rear, adjustable front sway bar, panhard bar on rear. Car is set up to run on radials. Fast no expense spared well built race car. Sandown 1.24, Phillip Island 1.54, Bathurst 2.39 with average driver. Comes with 2 spare axles 4 spare rims and tyres. 4 wet tyres, spare 3.4 crown wheel and pinion and various bits and pieces.

\$75, 000 (couldnt be built for that) freighted to Melbourne. Phone STEVE BYE. 0417 112519 for more info.

For Sale

1974 F350 Ford ramp deck transporter.full lockers and cupboards. Electric winch, tyre rack (8 rims),160 litre fuel tank, alloy rims with good tyres. 351 cleveland, manual, power steering, white paint, very reliable, will fit mustang /camaro size cars. \$18000 ono

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302 Mexican block with spare steel caps. \$1400 Phone STEVE BYE 0417 112519

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Some of the kind of average things might just go on for a bit longer

CarMA Report



I was laying around the other day – as I do - performing a spot of MYOB. Or more accurately, MMOB. Spying this poorly disguised lack of industry, The Boss informed me that I really ought to be doing something more constructive with my time. Particularly, she felt, in light of the fact that the vast majority of it is under-utilised, and in fact drawing no revenue of any kind. Actually, she put it less like that, and more along the lines of, "How about you get off your large hairy white arse and find yourself a paying job."

Well, as Cool Keith, engine builder to the stars (and me) suggested, that's just 'crazy talk'. However, the no-pay-no-race embargo is still firmly in place, and experience has shown that no amount of sucking up will be heard. So there's nothing for it – time for this rat to race again.

Happily, the subsequent employment ad surfing turned up a couple of interesting positions that I deemed suitable, and that I might be in some way qualified to fill. Out of some several thousand, this figure (three, actually) may on the surface seem a bit depressing. Well, only under the harsh glare of direct consideration. And I prefer to avoid that.

Anyway, one of the 'jobs' – using the term quite loosely – was for movie and TV extras. Right up my street, I thought, seeing as I seem to be somewhat surplus at the present. And, of course, dashingly good-looking. So, I bunged a

quick CV together to suit (with the handsomeness bit played down slightly out of modesty), and fired it off to the agency. Nothing outrageous of course; just a brief rundown on my showbiz career to date.

Beginning in 1983, there was a starring role in my Primary School's Year 5 video production. So clearly, I come armed with a prodigious (natural) talent. In fact this performance brought much critical acclaim – assuming 'acclaim' means what I think it does.

Things are somewhat bare thereafter, as far as your more traditional artistic work is

concerned. However I noted that this should be of little concern, as my skills have been honed to perfection over a lifetime of pretending to be a normal person.

It was also noteworthy, I thought, that I am neither strikingly beautiful nor impressively languishing at the scale's other end. Quite a bit like that Frog bloke with the snout, actually. Not Cyril De Burger Rack, the other one. (You know, Whatsisname. Big guy; bit of a tummy. GREAT hair.) This finely tuned balance can serve to make me invisible - particularly to barmaids - and is a gift that barely three quarters of the population possess.

Importantly, I related the ease with which I take direction. This is a given after seventeen years of marriage, especially as I have been utterly whipped for each and every one of them.

Lastly, and as is indeed true of all the great artists, I am both exceedingly poor, and don't mind the odd wee dram. Plenty of angst to draw on, there. Look out for my one-man stage production of Angela's Ashes. "We're starving, dad's drunk. We're starving, etc. etc. etc."

Suffering a pang of conscience, I had to admit having not seen Jimeoin's documentary on the subject, but stated a willingness to sit through it if it would be deemed helpful.

Now tell me; am I not custom made for the job? Well, you and I know it, but

strangely after several days I've heard nothing back. Maybe they're waiting on a call from Ridley, or Clint.

Forging ahead, I felt it best to maintain some forward motion. Option the second was for a group of chaps seeking a driver to cart flammable liquids about, and in some impressively large lorries, too. Naturally, this role would play to my other great strength – sitting down at work. Oh, and there'd be some driving too, I suppose.

Naturally I was compelled to advise this prospective employer that my licence wasn't, in the strictest sense, endorsed for such a thing. But this was easily balanced by my vast experience in the field of mechanised competition. As I told them, ask anyone who hasn't beaten me, and they'll both say, "Mat's car has WAY more power than mine".

In all fairness, I couldn't guarantee that their deliveries would be made on time. Or to the right place. On the upside though, I suggested that we'd certainly find ourselves on the news regularly. And there's no such thing as bad publicity, right?

At least I got a response this time, though there were so many expletives; initially my impression was that Eddie Murphy himself had written to warn me never to go near a petrol tanker. Bit harsh, I thought.

Sensing a slim chance of success here, we rolled the dice for one last time. Similarly, the third opportunity was also a steering caper, though more in the vein of transporting short people to prison. You know how job advertisers use fancy schmancy titles... "School Bus Driver", I think they called this one.

Happily, due to the similarities (big vehicle, dangerous cargo) I was able to recycle the application letter from Number Two. This might not sound like much, but it enabled me to sneak in another nap, and that's vital to maintaining a pleasing visage. Never know, Number One might call yet.

I did get a reaction from the bus folk, too. Well, not directly. As I explained to an angry yet increasingly horrified Anti Terrorism Squad member, I had been genuinely seeking employment. The threat was not implied, merely inferred, I explained. Though clearly still dubious, my reasoning thankfully mollified Torquemada to the point that he agreed to stop punching me and follow a slightly less excruciating line of questioning.

When The Boss bailed me out (finally – seriously, how hard does one need to think about such things) I realised that after all of that effort, I was left no more employed than previously. Even various (court-ordered) sessions for 'assessment' provided no legitimate job offers. Really, I had no idea judges rode horses so often.

Or enjoyed it so much.

There was nothing for it but to get back to work on my couch groove – it had reinflated alarmingly in my absence – and get in some serious Ellen-time while reflecting on the experience of it all. Try to glean some value from what I'd learned, and enjoy having a good scratch of the electrode burns as they healed.

Proving once and for all that I do my best thinking while supine, it was here that I had my Eureka moment. Not an armed confrontation with authority, happily. More of your Good Idea kind of thing. You see, there is something for which I am eminently qualified. Without realising it, I have invested several years of study in what is in fact quite a specialised field. Dear reader, I present to you Mat Jager, Dromedary Podiatrist (specialising in the Metatarsals and Phalanges).

Now, if I could only convince someone to pay me to look at one for them, I could be back on track in no time.

Cheers, then

Mat



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