

Southern Tablelands Heritage Automotive Restorers Club Inc.

> DECEMBER 2020 ISSUE 215

page 2 The Wheel # 215

# Southern Tablelands Heritage Automotive Restorers Club, Inc.

President Joe Vavra 0407331048

Vice President Terry Davis

Public Officer Chris Hillbrick-Boyd

**Treasurer** Brian Thomas **Membership** Maureen Vavra

**Vehicle Inspector** Albert Neuss 6297 6225 **Property Officers** Ray & Barbara Malam 6238 3581

SecretaryLawrie Nock6230 3320secretary@stharc.org.auRegistrarJohn Corbett6297 7285registrar@stharc.org.auWebmasterMalcolm Roxburgh 6236 9408webmaster@stharc.org.au

Editor Darryl Bourke 0408264393 editor@stharc.org.au

**Events Director** Hugh Spencer 0488633737 **Events Committee** Bill Grzeskowiak and Tony Brown

#### **Publishing Committee**

Ronda Cornwell (6297 3174), Rhonda Winnett, Krystyna McLeish and Jane Nock.

Website: www.stharc.org.au Club Email: contact@stharc.org.au

Mail: PO Box 1420, Queanbeyan NSW 2620, AUSTRALIA

#### Club Meetings On hold due to COVID19 virus

WHEN: 8pm; 1st Tuesday of each month (except January)

WHERE: Girl Guide Hall, Erin St, Queanbeyan.

Contributions should be submitted before the 15th of the month for the following month's issue. Articles covering events, members' experiences, automotive/amechanical items or photographs welcomed. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or modify any section of any article submitted for publication.

The opinions and views expressed in the articles published in The Wheel are wholly those of the respective authors, not necessarily those of the Editor, or the Committee of the Southern Tablelands Heritage Automotive Restorers Club Inc. Previous copies of The Wheel are available from Australian National Library, Call No N796.70994WHE Photos/text are used with permission are © copyright of the owners and or SHTARC, or are public domain (if so indicated), or are used for "fairuse review" only. That is - images illustrate text next to which it appears, which provides critical commentary on the work in question for which it promotes. The images are of lower resolution and quality than the original (copies made from it will be of inferior quality). No free equivalent is available or could be created that would adequately give the same information. It is not replaceable. The image does not limit the copyright owners' rights to distribute the artwork in any way. The image's inclusion in the article is important because it is the subject of and is discussed in the text. The image is being used for informational purposes only. The material has previously been published in numerous sources, & on the internet with higher resolution images available elsewhere (Eg Amazon.com, Ebay.com).

# Editors Notes: Darryl Bourke

#### In the year 2020.

Well here we are with the last edition of The Wheel for 2020. A year that has been hard to predict and impacting on our club events. Due to COVID 19 our monthly meetings, morning teas, events and runs have all been put on hold. The AGM had to be pushed out which does give us time to recruit a President and Secretary. Positions that have to be filled if our club (and your historical registration) is to continue.

#### Normal 2021

Will we be back to normal in 2021? I hope not as I see COVID, along with unprecedented temperatures, bushfires and floods, as a wakeup call to us. I believe there has to be a shift from putting profit before people. Most people can come to terms with the end of the world, but not the end of capitalism.

We are the smartest creatures on earth so lets work out how to live Sustainably and not rely on continuous growth thinking it will never end.

Our life should be in peace and harmony with each other, our environment, and nature. I was attracted to STHARC because of the friendly and inclusive nature of the diverse range of members. Lets do it on a larger scale, our world.

Enjoy the comradery of fellow members along with their different perspectives and views. Agree to disagree if necessary to maintain the friendships.

Merry Christmas and a great new year to you.

Cover photo is Hugh's newly acquired 1949 Lister stationary engine

Homestead Press design + print

Our thanks to Homestead Press for their support:

3 Paterson Pde, Queanbeyan NSW 2620 Tel: 026299 4500 Fax: 026299 4200 Email printing@homesteadpress.com.au

page 4 The Wheel # 215

#### PRESIDENTS REPORT

#### **Dear Members**

Well the weather is warming up so we need to keep hydrated.

COVID-19 seems to be being controlled in Australia. However, we cannot become complacent, so take care. Restrictions are being eased between states. We still do not have a green light to meet as a club at the Girl Guide Hall but I think it could be close. I'm betting on February.

We have had a number of new membership requests but have had to put them on the back burner until the club can meet again. Hopefully those folks will have the patience to wait until then.

The committee is still meeting and dealing with day to day matters on your behalf.

A few of us met at the Gang Gang Cafe at Downer for morning tea. The coffee & tea and cake were very good as was the company. Those who missed that one should really look forward to the next one.

The picnic run at the Cotter was a great success with a good collection of members and vehicles.

If you know if a member complaining they have not received their copy of the WHEEL then they probably have not paid their membership.

Again I need to remind you we need a new club Secretary for when we eventually have our AGM. The club cannot function without one. So please seriously think if you can help out your club. Please contact me privately if you want to chat about it before hopping into the deep end.



Recently I sent out emails to advise members of coming events. Some emails bounced back because they were not recognised any longer. If you have new contact details or your vehicles then let the Membership Secretary Maureen know - mausie.vavra@bigpond.com.

Please keep sending your stories to our Editor Darryl. Also very importantly, our Events Director Hugh wants to know if you have ideas on what runs we could go on. Even longer duration runs over a number of days will be welcome as ideas.

This is your club so please contribute in some way.

Details of our Annual Christmas gathering details are on the website.

Well that's it for now.

Keep safe

Joe Vavra

President



So call Shannons for a 🖚 🆚 👚 quote on 13 46 46.

SHARE THE PASSION

page 6 The Wheel # 215

# AROUND THE WORLD IN 573 DAYS by Hugh

#### Episode 12 Mongolia +

#### The Gobi desert and the unexpected

August and we are tourist travellers again as we latch onto a G Adventures chaperoned trip across Mongolia, into Siberia and on to Moscow. The Trans Siberian we are on is a local train. Our journey will take many weeks as we slowly clank across the Globe. We explore cities villages and the mountains. We are taking the slow train from China.

After climbing through the high mountains north of Beijing we head north into Mongolia and across the high plateau that is the Gobi desert. Time for bed and shared snores. 4 snores to each compartment. I get top bunk, Beverley is below. Foreign snores are not fun..aaah. Next time ear plugs! Our carriages are hoisted up and our wheels changed with the change of gauge. The golden sun is setting in this golden vast open flat land, we have left fertile China far far behind.

#### Mongolia

Ulaanbaatar is the capital and pretty much the only city in Mongolia. We are entertained by the Mongolian National Song and dance ensemble in a flea pit theatre. It is brilliant and there are no fleas! Very enjoyable Olympians of throat singing and Zither! This city is one of the coldest in the world. Most popular car? A Toyota Prius, about 30% of total vehicles we think! The roads are all pot holes. They must breed here.



3 Paterson Pde, Queanbeyan NSW 2620 Tel: 026299 4500 Fax: 026299 4200 Email printing@homesteadpress.com.au

We head to the Gorki National Park and are staying in yurts. Kind of a large rug igloo with a fire inside. It is brilliant. The high alpine air, conifer forests and mountains. Everything is green and there are wild horses, ponies really. This truly is the land of the horse. There is a bloody great empire state sized monster stainless steel one overlooking the hills which we climb up. The legend of Ghengis Khan is alive and very real here.

Our Mongolian train is smaller now and we wake up on the Russian border. We have lost our train there is just our carriage and we are waiting for a Russian engine to come and collect us from no one's land. We wait and we wait... but it's all okay. Our train is boarded with more officials than passengers and discuss our journey. Our visas are in order. Everything is okay and we are good to go. We have reached Siberia and the vast journey across the impossibly enormous wasteland that is Siberia commences. It makes the Indian Pacific seem like a commute.

And it's green... huge huge grasslands in flower and wonderful forests. There are no people or towns just occasionally abandoned dachas. I bet there are wolves...



page 8 The Wheel # 215

# STHARC COFFEE MORNING by Allan Boyd

#### **GANGGANG CAFE, DOWNER**

Thursday 12 November 2020

Having not been on many outings for months due to COVID 19 restrictions, we were glad to take a "coffee break" at the Downer shops.

Due to rain/storms forecast, Chris and I drove the modern. Ringo the Beetle is not a good wet-weather car, but as it turn out rain did not eventuate.

Neither of us have been to the Downer shops so it took a bit of finding with the help of a 20 year old 'fold up' Canberra map (no Google for us!). On arrival at the GangGang Cafe, the Vavras and Darryl Bourke were easy to find at an outdoor setting. The coffee and food was good and served promptly with a smile by the staff.

Conversation varied from classic and electric cars, camping and caravanning to our personal driving experiences including stories about when and how we obtained our driver's licence. What a great topic the latter turned out to be; so come on members send a short story into The Wheel "How I obtained my drivers or riders licence" to the Editor- we would all enjoy reading your experiences; a prize for the best story judged by the Editor (donated by a member).

Darryl made a move to his Tesla; Joe and I gave him signals that we could not hear the motor noise and the exhaust pipe was missing lol. We followed and headed for home. Dark clouds could be seen on the horizon but no rain until halfway to Queanbeyan.

# "NO ONE KNOWS YOUR PASSION LIKE SHANNONS."

The passion, the pride of ownership, the sheer emotional attachment – no one understands it better than Shannons. So when it comes to insurance for your special car, daily drive, bike or even your home, there's only one person you should talk to – a fellow enthusiast at Shannons. And remember, you can pay your premium by the month at no extra cost.





SHARE THE PASSION



#### **Roll Call**

Darryl Bourke Tesla electric

Maureen & Joe Vavra Modern

Chris HB & Allan Boyd Modern





page 10 The Wheel # 215

# **EVENT DIRECTORS REPORT** by Hugh Spencer

#### **Thursday 15th November**

The club run and barbeque at the Cotter was most successful. The barbeque trailer worked well again and we had an excellent turn out for a perfect day.

#### **Upcoming Events December**

With continual changes to COVID restrictions it is now feasible to run, on a restricted basis, club events in the open in N.S.W.

#### STHARC Christmas Barbeque Sunday 13th Burra private event.

Following consultation within the Commitee it has been decided to change the Christmas barbeque venue.

The Christmas Barbeque will now be held in Burra at Hugh Spencer and Bev Lang's property. This will be an outdoor event. Shade will be provided. There is plenty of space for children and a game of cricket is also possible.

Numbers are limited to 50 at private property in NSW under COVID rules.

So please contact the Event Director via email or phone to secure your place.

**When**: Meet at the Club House at 10:00 for 10:30 departure. John Corbett will lead the way. Apart from some moderate road works on Burra Road the route is sealed. So please bring your old vehicle.

Club will provide: sausages, onions, blankets and sauce and shade and sanitiser.

**Please bring**: salads, deserts and drinks fir yourselves. At this stage of COVID we will still not be sharing private food. Sausages served under "Bunning's rules".

And please bring a suitable table and folding chairs for your party.

So call Shannons for a 🖚 🏠 quote on 13 46 46.

SHARE THE PASSION

Santa is still under Quarantine at present as the Reindeer are not happy with being restricted with Santa for 14 days. So it is not envisaged that Santa will be attending.

All members must use hand sanitiser please and bring sense of humour.

Do not come if you have any possible symptoms or have been potentially exposed to COVID19

#### Sunday 17th January @5pm

#### Presidents evening soiree

Drive right to the end of Black Mountain peninsula down near the water. This event is fully self catered so perhaps bring along your champers and chicken and picnic gear. There are good barbeque facilities and an excellent playground for children.

Meet at the peninsula at 5:00 pm.

Please note Joe Vavra should be contacted for any further information regarding this event.

#### **Monthly Meetings**

The club plans to have monthly meetings again from February 2021. Location to be advised.

Please make new members welcome at these club events.

Any questions please contact me on 0488633737.

**Hugh Spencer** 

**Event Director** 





Our thanks to Homestead Press for their support:

e 12	CONTACT	Horsch horstkirchner@	grapevine.com. au		Hugh Spencer 0488633737	The	Whee
UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISED: All STHARC runs start from the Queanbeyan Girl Guides Hall, Erin St Queanbeyan. BYO chairs, tables, picnic ware, drinks & food, sunscreen for all runs.	DECEMBER EVENTS	<b>Terribly British Day</b> Terribly British Day to be held in Queanbeyan park.	Please contact Horsch if you wish to attend. It is especially important that members provide details to organisers to facilitate NSW COVID compliance. See flyer in this edition of the Wheel for further details.	Christmas Barbeque	The Christmas Barbeque will now be held in Burra at Hugh Spencer and Bev Lang's property. This will be an outdoor event. Shade will be provided. There is plenty of space for children and a game of cricket is also possible.	Numbers are limited to 50 at private property in NSW under COVID rules so secure your place by contacting the Event Director.	<b>Meet</b> at the Club House at 10:00 for 10:30 departure. John Corbett will lead the way. Apart from some moderate road works on Burra Road
All STHARC BYO chairs, to	Day/Date	Sunday 6th		Sunday	13th ,		

Meet at the peninsula at 5:00 pm.

Monthly Meetings resume

**Tuesday** 

Day/Date

Location to be advised.

Presidents evening soiree

Day/Date

Sunday

under "Bunning's rules".

page 13

ORGANISE A RUN.

Members of other car clubs are most welcome to join STHARC on any of our club runs. Check STHARC's Website regularly for details and updates.

page 14 The Wheel # 215

### **HUMOROUS DRIVING TALES**

A few years ago I had an operation on my shoulder and afterwards wasn't permitted to drive for 6 weeks. Well Maureen was desperate to attend a Canberra Caravan Rally in Tumut. I told her the only way that could happen would be if she drove. Maureen had not towed the big Jayco caravan before and was very nervous but agreed to drive.

Driving along the Parkway out of Canberra all was good but Maureen had developed a nervous thirst. I told her she could have a drink once out of the ACT. We arrived at Hall so she got her drink of "water"!!

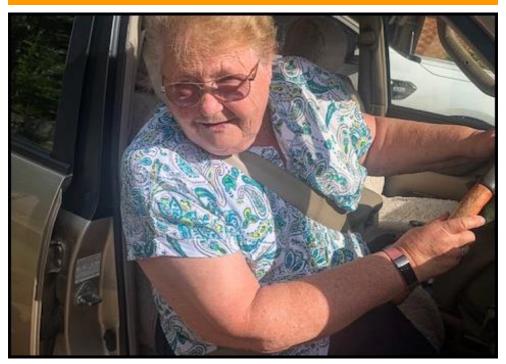
All was going well along the highway and Maureen's nerves settled.

Between Gundagai and Tumut there had been fires. The traffic was stopped to allow workers to remove some burnt trees. We were stopped on an uphill slope and Maureen's nerves kicked in again. I told her it was only a normal hill start and to pretend we didn't have the caravan on. That didn't really help because I could see Maureen's grip on the steering wheel tighten.

We got the signal to continue on. Maureen drove on without a hitch - I naturally said well done - see I told you it was easy. I swear, if the steering wheel had blood running through it - circulation would have stopped with that grip she had on it.

We soon arrived at the Tumut Caravan Park. As we drove in I noticed some of our group had already arrived and were having Happy Hour. Maureen decided she would drive in from around the other side and drive straight in and not have to reverse. The only obstacle was the happy hour crowd who were in the way. Maureen drove through the middle of them sending them scurrying in all directions with their chairs under their arms.





On noticing Maureen was driving they all gave her a big cheer for driving and towing.

One of the men came to the driver's door and asked if she would like him to finish parking the van. She nodded vigorously and went to jump out and nearly choked herself because in her rush to escape the driver's seat she forgot to release the seatbelt.

Oh what an experience it was for her. Driven all that way without a hitch and almost met her demise at the destination.

The End Joe Vavra



3 Paterson Pde, Queanbeyan NSW 2620 Tel: 026299 4500 Fax: 026299 4200 Email printing@homesteadpress.com.au

page 16 The Wheel # 215

### MY FIRST CAR by Darryl Bourke

#### FC Holden

I bought my first car after finishing high school. Borrowing the family car I drive 60Km to Ashmont in Wagga Wagga where I purchased a FC Holden station wagon. My friend who came with me drove the family car back while I proudly took command of the FC Holden.

Not long into the journey I hit a pothole. I felt the accelerator move and felt the car accelerate forward so I knocked it into neutral, turned off the motor and cruised to a stop.

My friend who was following came running up to rescue me from what he saw as bellows of smoke from a car that could burst into flames.

After deciding the car was not going to explode we popped the bonnet. We found the oil bath air filter had come off the carburettor and caught on the accelerator mechanism, opening the throttle fully up, while dispensing its oil onto the hot exhaust.





The FC Holden engine bay was big enough to enabling one to sit on the wheel arch with your feet inside the engine bay, while you made necessary adjustments. No hidden parts under covers here, you could see and work on any part of the motor, which most home mechanics did at the time.

With a timing strobe light and feeler gauges the car was purring beautifully.

The speedo did not /would not work so I installed a tacho (revolutions per minute meter). I soon worked out what revs related to the speed of the surrounding traffic as an indicator of speed. There were few speed limits in the seventies, probably just an in town limit. Now it feels like your constantly adjusting for the multiple speed zones!

Having owned the car for about a month I headed off to Sydney where I had secured work. With near no knowledge of Sydney and surrounding roads it took me twelve hours to get to my Sydney boarding house. Heading down the Hume Highway I took a left turn to Penrith thinking it was on the way!

A feature I did not realise the car had until experiencing the Sydney stop start traffic was its "Automatic tail gate". Any vigorous acceleration such as from traffic lights would cause the tailgate to fall open, even if the tailgate was locked with the key. Hoping nothing fell out, I would jump out of the car at the next red light to run round the back to close the tail gate.



page 18 The Wheel # 215



The picture above is from when I was leaving home in the FC Holden on my big adventure to Sydney. (Wish I still had some of that curly hair)

# "NO ONE KNOWS YOUR PASSION LIKE SHANNONS."

The passion, the pride of ownership, the sheer emotional attachment – no one understands it better than Shannons. So when it comes to insurance for your special car, daily drive, bike or even your home, there's only one person you should talk to – a fellow enthusiast at Shannons. And remember, you can pay your premium by the month at no extra cost.





SHARE THE PASSION

### STATIONARY ENGINE by Hugh Spencer

Once upon a time there was a large Lister stationary engine which thumped away in Burra. At some stage in its life it was restored and then later sold via clearance sale held here in Burra nearly some 20 years ago.

Well the old 1949 5 horsepower Lister has returned home to Burra. And a very excited Events Director is now recommissioning it. When operating it will drive a fire fighting pump so it will be of interest to see if old power can out perform the modern Davy upstart. Fire hoses at the ready!

At present however it's back to slashing and the old Fiat tractor is thinking not again!!!



page 20 The Wheel # 215

# THE COTTER RUN by Hugh Spencer

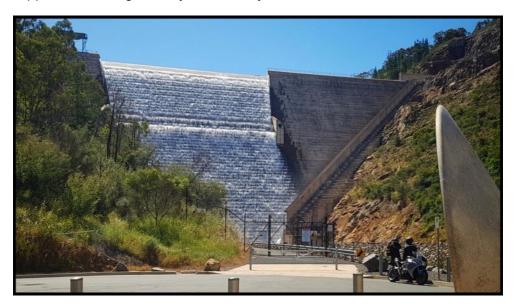
The club barbeque trailer rolled again in 2020 and a magnificent sunny day down the Cotter was had under the shady trees. Although busy, the Club found a great spot and a great time was had while the Event Director and assistant cooked up a storm in these uncertain times.







The Cotter really is very pretty and a number of participants made the arduous trek up to dam wall that was fully overflowing. A magnificent sight not seen in years! So while the motorcycle scratchers tested their uncertain skills on the Cotter road bends STHARC took a more measured approach and a great day was had by all.



#### Participants included:

Keith and Janice Bateman Datsun 1978
Barry Stewart XF Falcon
Lorna and Mike Fleetwood Citroen 2CV
John Thomas Holen EH
Graham and Alida Bell 68 Mini
John Corbett Ford Pilot
Sandra and Brian McInally Campervan
Tony and Christine Brown Mustang
John Kaczmarek Ford Falcon 1975
Hugh Spencer Bev Lang ... Barbeque trailer



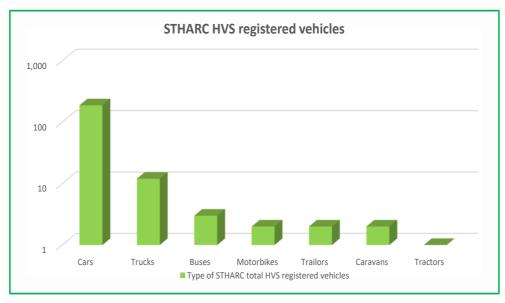
page 22 The Wheel # 215

# STHARC VEHICLES by John Corbett

We have 41 different makes registered with STHARC. 188 are cars, 12 trucks, 1 tractor, 2 motor cycles, 2 trailers, 3 buses and 2 caravans.

The big change and what we have been seeing in the old car movement is the increase of Japanese made cars over the last 5-6 years, also the disappearance of pre 1919 cars which we no longer have registered in that era.

There does appear to be an increasing number of heavy vehicles being put forward for historic registration and if you like trucks, which I do, is pleasing to see.







Repairs to all makes and models, including LPG vehicles. NSW & LPG Rego Inspections

33 KENDALL AVE QUEANBEYAN 2620

Ph.:6297 8557 Fax:6299 3800



**Capital Diesel Service** 

Diesel fuel injection specialist



John and Pam Corbett pco04198@bigpond.net.au

Ph. 6297 7285

Mobile: 0412 295 177



All types of mechanical work done to most makes and models of vehicles.

Authorised Inspection Station NSW & ACT.

Albert & Andrew Neuss

8 Endurance Ave Queanbeyan

02 6297 6225









Southern Tablelands Heritage Automotive Restorers Club Inc, P O Box 1420 Queanbeyan NSW 2620

SHANNONS."

PASSION LIKE

"NO ONE KNOWS YOUR



only one person you should talk to –a fellow enthusiast at Shamons. And remember, you can pay your premium by the morth at no extra cost.

SHARE THE PASSION

INSURANCE FOR MOTORING ENTHUSIASTS | CALL 13 46 46 FOR A QUOTE | SHANNONS.COM.AU