

ISSUE 258

The Wheel



**Southern Tablelands
Heritage Automotive Restorers Club Inc.**

November 2024



Southern Tablelands Heritage Automotive Restorers Club, Inc.

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Club Meetings

WHEN: 7pm; 2nd Thursday of each month (except January)

WHERE: Girl Guide Hall, Erin St, Queanbeyan.

Contributions should be submitted **before the 22nd of the month** for the following month's issue. Articles covering events, members' experiences, automotive/mechanical items or photographs welcomed. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or modify any section of any article submitted for publication.

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From the President's driver seat

Hello STHARC Members,

As I contemplated what I may write this month for the Wheel, I think that the overwhelming feeling is one of support and admiration for the members who assist with the efficient running of the club and those who choose (when able) to attend our meetings and club runs. One of my most used refrains is that this club is *all about the people – not the vehicles* and so becoming active in our activities and known to our members is how we all get the most from our club.

A particular shoutout this month goes to Bob Hall who I think is an excellent example of what I wrote about in the preceding paragraph. Those of us fortunate to listen to his presentation at the October meeting were given a master class on the topic of the Flexible Clipper coach. I have seen Bob drive his coach to Cooma and Yass on our scheduled Club Runs over the past couple of months and we are a better club for his inclusion. On behalf of the members, I thank Bob for his time and preparedness to give that presentation to us. For those unable to attend our last meeting, a fairly detailed summary is included in the Minutes of the meeting for your perusal.

Hopefully, Bob's presentation will motivate others to give a presentation to us too. Ideally, a presentation will not be more than 10 minutes and can be of any topic related to STHARC, about which you are passionate. Be assured that you will receive a warm and receptive audience and I ask that you let me know in advance.

I have written this submission sufficiently late in the cycle, such that I can touch upon the October club run to Ollies' Garage on Saturday 19 October. It was a well-supported outing by the Club and those present swooned over the examples on show. Ian and Tina (STHARC Club members) are clearly passionate about their collection of unique cars and altruistic about how they can be used for good. If you have not yet done so, I recommend you check out their website at <https://olliesgarage.com.au>

From the President's driver seat

Lastly, at the October meeting I voiced my intention to host a Club run to my property (in Wamboin) for the President's Run in January 2025. I am yet to decide upon the best date for this event, but the intention is for this event to be family orientated with a BYO BBQ (we'll utilise the Club's BBQ Trailer), and then have some family fun in the pool, tennis-ball cricket, and badminton (weather permitting). Watch out for details over the next month.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at our regular meetings and events.

Yours fraternally,

Bruce Legge

President

Editors Notes: Sandra, Marion & Rhonda

Front Cover

Mark Wyatt's Toyota Celica RA28. Read part one of this great article by Mark on the restoration of the Celica on pages 23-26.

IMPORTANT

Members, you need to vote for the club person of the year.

A nomination form is on the back of this issue. Either email your nomination to Secretary, Bruce McCarron, or bring along to the November meeting. Forms will also be available at the next meeting.

GIANT CHRISTMAS RAFFLE/HAMPER



With our Christmas Party fast approaching on Sunday, 8 December, we would like members to give generously to our Giant Christmas Raffle/Hamper. The more prizes we have, the more chances you have to win.

Our November meeting is the last opportunity to receive your donations before the Christmas Party.

Non-perishable food items, or other goods, to go either into the hamper or be a separate prize would be greatly appreciated.

We will have a box at the November meeting to collect any donations. If you can't make it to a meeting and would like to donate, please contact Christine Brown on 0412 442 623.



MORNING TEA

27th September 2024

September's Morning Tea catch-up at the Wildbark Café was a success with lots of requests from members to revisit this cafe in the future.

We sat looking out over the grasslands at Mulligans flat and enjoyed the lovely pancakes, Reuben sandwiches and the usual breakfast fare.



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MORNING TEA

27th September 2024



The conversations were lively, as usual, and included topics such as food and jewellery.

Lyn Howard even found a new necklace selected from the wildlife on show at the cafe

Thank you Sandra and Brian McNally for finding this lovely spot.

MORNING TEA

27th September 2024

Attendees

Dave & Alicia Arton
Steve & Rhonda Ahearn
Tony & Christine Brown
John Kaczmarek
Barry Stewart
Lyn & Jimmy Howard
Bob Fulthorpe
Bruce Legge
Jed Johnson
Ray & Barbara Malam

Apologies

Rosalie Ryan
Pam Corbett
Rhonda Cornwall
Chris Hilbrick-Boyd & Allan Boyd
Sandra & Brian McInally



September 2024 - STHARC Club Run to the Yass Railway Museum Picnic Day

The September 2024 run to the Yass Railway Museum Picnic Day was the third consecutive year that STHARC has attended this event.

Four cars left from the Queanbeyan Guide Hall and had a leisurely run along the Barton Highway, where we picked up Bob Hall and his Clipper Coach at Murrumbateman.

On our arrival the Museum organisers opened the gates adjacent to the old Yass Railway Station and we parked our cars on a grassed area next to the railway siding.

However, to park his Clipper Coach in the same area, Bob Hall had to mount the gutter in the side street so he had a straight-line approach.

Bob's Clipper was not the only heavy vehicle in attendance on the day as one of the locals had brought along his 1950's era Military Recovery Truck.

We wandered around the Museums buildings looking at the many photographs and artifacts from the steam rail era. And we spent quite a bit of time checking out and purchasing locally made items and produce at the many market stalls.

Also, there were a number of food vendors in attendance supplying hot and cold drinks, sausage sandwiches, Asian dishes, crepes and gelatos, so there was plenty of choice for lunch.

At around 1.30pm, having spent a very pleasant morning at the Museum, it was time to make our individual way home. A bonus for the day was that Lyn Howard won a prize in the raffle.

September 2024 - STHARC Club Run to the Yass Railway Museum Picnic Day

Attendees

Bruce Legge	1965 Ford Mustang
Tony and Christine Brown	1966 Ford Mustang
Barry Stewart	XF Falcon Sedan
Jimmy and Lyn Howard	1986 Nissan Skyline
Bob Hall	Ansett Clipper Coach
Ray and Barbara Malam	Modern
Dave and Alicia Arton	Modern (Spyder Trike)



September 2024 - STHARC Club Run to the Yass Railway Museum Picnic Day



STHARC 2024 Christmas Party

Sunday 8th December

12.00pm

The Wamboin Community Hall

Bingley Way, Wamboin.

RSVP by Friday 29th November

Alicia Arton 0422 203 495

or

Rosalie Ryan 0427 292 238

RSVP is essential to cater for this event. Please indicate how many are coming including children.

Thank You

We hope to see you there



INFORMATION

CLUB MEMBERS TO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY TO THE HALL.

A FEW EARLY ARRIVALS FROM 11.30AM TO HELP SET UP WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED.

THE CLUB WILL PROVIDE BBQ MEATS (SAUSAGES, CHICKEN ETC. (GLUTEN FREE), BBQ ONIONS, DINNER ROLLS AND CONDIMENTS.

PLEASE BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT AS YOU INDICATED ON THE SIGN UP SHEET.

PLEASE ALSO BRING: PLATES, CUTLERY, DRINKS AND NIBBLES.

(AND YOUR SALAD OR DESSERT!)

FUN DAY OUT FOR THE WHOLE CLUB!!

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE BRING CASH!
ANNUAL PRESENTATIONS
GIANT RAFFLE
HAMPERS AND LOTS OF OTHER GREAT PRIZES

PRIZE FOR THE BEST DECORATED VEHICLE: LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN WILD WITH YOUR CAR, TRUCK, TRACTOR OR BIKE.

THIS DAY IS A GREAT DAY FOR MEMBERS OLD AND NEW TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET TOGETHER AND REALISE WHY YOU ARE A MEMBER OF STHARC.



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.

Day/Date	NOVEMBER 2024 EVENTS	CONTACT
<p>Sunday 10th</p>	<p>Run to Major's Creek for a gathering at the home of Bruce McCarron in conjunction with the local folk festival.</p> <p>Bring all your own food for a BBQ and drinks & nibbles .</p> <p>Meet at the Guide Hall at 10..00am</p>	<p>Sandra McInally</p> <p>040634162</p>
<p>Thursday 14th</p>	<p>7pm—Club Meeting—Queanbeyan Girl Guide Hall, 32 Erin St, Queanbeyan</p>	
<p>Sunday 17th</p>	<p>STHARC club vehicle display at the Canberra Railway Museum, Kingston, in conjunction with the Museum's open day.</p> <p>Members are to make their own way to the museum . However for the safety of the general public on the day, vehicles will need to be in place by 9.30am and remain until at least 1.30om.</p> <p>Lunch can be BYO or purchased from the museum BBQ.</p> <p>Full details on the STHARC website.</p>	<p>Tony Brown</p> <p>0431539354</p>
<p>Friday 29th</p>	<p>Morning Tea—10am</p> <p>Bookplate Café, National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Canberra</p>	<p>Alicia Arton</p> <p>0422203495</p>

STHARC GENERAL MEETING

Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th October 2024

The meeting commenced at 7.05 pm.

The President welcomed members to the meeting and reminded them to sign the attendance book and turn their phones to silent. He also requested that anyone addressing the meeting give their name and speak from the front of the room so that everyone could hear clearly.

Attendance and apologies as per Attendance Book.

Visitors: Chris Roberts, who owns a VL Commodore, was visiting and is hoping to join the club. Brian, who owns a number of Valiants, was visiting with friends. The President welcomed both visitors.

Minutes of the 12 September 2024 meeting approved (moved Rosalie Ryan and seconded Rhonda Ahearn).

Treasurer's Report: The Club's finances remain in good order. In the past month, income has comprised membership fees and raffle proceeds, while expenditure has comprised printing and postage of *The Wheel*, payment for name badges, raffle prizes and the renewal of the website domain name. The club insurance was due on 1 October but the insurance company is experiencing technical problems and has not yet sent out the invoice. This will be sorted out by the time of the next meeting and the club remains covered over this period. The premium is expected to be around \$1,200, a relatively modest increase from last year. Report accepted (moved Christine Brown; seconded Hugh Spencer).

Secretary's Report: The Secretary observed that, to date, eleven nominations had been received for Club Member of the Year, and invited further nominations. The Club had received four newsletters (Crankhandle, Colonial, Coota Hoota and Baw Baw Old Engine and Auto Club); those received electronically have been forwarded to members. Report accepted (moved Bruce McCarron; seconded Rosalie Ryan).

Registrar's Report: The Registrar noted that the correct e-mail address to which members should send copies of their registration certificates was stharcvehicles@gmail.com.

STHARC GENERAL MEETING

Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th October 2024

Events Report: Tony Brown noted that 11 members had attended the Yass Railway Museum picnic day on Sunday 29 September, with 4 STHARC cars and Bob Hall's Clipper Coach being displayed. A full report will appear in *The Wheel*.

The visit to Ollie's Garage, 1/72 Gladstone St, Fyshwick, is scheduled for 10.00am on Saturday 19 October. Members should make their own way there and are asked to make a suitable donation to the Henry Royce Foundation.

STHARC will display club vehicles at the Canberra Railway Museum open day on Sunday 17 November. As the display will consist of only STHARC vehicles, the aim is to have as diverse a display as possible. Members are to make their own way to the Kingston museum site, with their vehicles in place by 9.30 am and remaining on display until at least 1.30pm. Visitors will be able to vote for a "People's Choice" award. Lunch would be a choice of BYO picnic or purchased sausage sizzle. Bob Hall is arranging publicity for the event and asked if anyone had a photo of a past club outing which could be used for this purpose. Pam Corbett will look through the club photo albums for a suitable photo. Fifteen members indicated their intention to attend the display and it is hoped that this number will increase.

Representing the new Events Committee, Rosalie Ryan noted that members were invited to Bruce McCarron's house on 10 November to coincide with the Major's Creek Folk Festival. The festival music can be heard from Bruce's house and Bruce will make his barbeque available. Members planning to attend should contact Bruce.

Marques in the Park will be held at the Deakin Football Stadium on Sunday 10 November.

STHARC GENERAL MEETING

Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th October 2024

Events report—continued

The STHARC Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 8 December at Wamboin Community Hall from 12.00 noon. RSVPs are essential as the club will be catering for the meal. Members who can provide a salad or dessert should advise the organisers. BYO drinks, nibbles, crockery and cutlery. Donations to the raffle hamper can be made this evening or at the October meeting. There will be a prize for the best decorated vehicle.

The President foreshadowed that the January 2025 President's Run will be to his home, with the club barbeque trailer present. Details will be published in *The Wheel*.

Editors' Report: Rhonda Ahearn noted that surplus hard copies of the last two editions of *The Wheel* were available for collection and invited members, especially new members, to submit articles for *The Wheel*. She also noted that a 'Classifieds' section was being added to the magazine so anyone with something to advertise should contact the editors.

Rhonda noted that the Committee had approved in principle the purchase of a new laptop to replace the current laptop which is seven years old and very slow. The Editors had been looking at possible models priced around \$1,000. Joe Vavra noted that most of the laptops around that price point were designed for gaming and that he judged we could get a very suitable machine for closer to \$700. The President noted the need to get a laptop which would serve the club for many years. The Editorial team will continue their research and bring a final proposal to the Committee.

Webmaster's Report: Keith ~~XXXXXXXX~~ reported that the website domain name had been renewed and measures taken to ensure the recent problem with the name expiring would not reoccur. He invited members to submit material for inclusion on the website and to offer any suggestions they have in relation to the site.

STHARC GENERAL MEETING

Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th October 2024

Property Officer's Report: Michael Oborn displayed samples of club caps, hats, tee shirts and polo shirts as well as STHARC car badges, available for purchase at the conclusion of the meeting.

Morning Tea Report: Rosalie noted the following morning teas, starting at 10.00 am:

25 October – The Knox Made in Watson
29 November – National Library

CACTMC Delegate: Chuck Landwehr clarified that under ACT rules, non club members can drive a vehicle on concessional registration but the entry in the log book needs to record the name of the person driving at the time. For example, if a club member is driving a club vehicle but hands over the driving to a non-member, a new entry is required in the log book.

Queries to the CACTMC should come via a club's CACTMC delegate and not directly from club members.

It appears Shannon's Wheels 25 will go ahead, but no details of which club is organising the event are available at this stage.

CHMC Delegate: Alan Boyd noted that there was very little to add to last month's report. CHMC is still looking for a club to host the 2026 annual rally. Entry forms are available for the 2025 annual rally to be hosted by the Dubbo Antique Automobile Club.

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STHARC GENERAL MEETING

Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th October 2024

General Business:



Bob Hall addressed the meeting on the history of the Flexible Clipper coach. The Flexible Sidecar Company was established in the USA in 1913 producing flexible couplings between motorcycles and sidecars. After WW1 it diversified into small buses and ambulances. The first Flexible clipper coach was designed in 1939, followed by a second design in 1941. Post WW 11, the company introduced the third, and best known, model.

STHARC GENERAL MEETING

Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th October 2024

In 1943 the Withers family sold their ground-breaking tour company business, Pioneer Tours, to Reg Ansett who expanded the business and looked to the USA to source appropriate coaches. Ansett was seeking a licence to build American coaches in Australia. After being turned down by General Motors, Ansett secured an agreement with Flixible Coaches, which resulted in 131 Flixible clipper coaches being manufactured in Australia between 1950 and 1960. Although comparatively small by modern standards, the clippers were revolutionary at the time. Over time, Ansett moved to larger coaches, with the clippers being largely phased out of service by the early 1970s.

There are currently 27 Australian built clippers on the road and a further 8 which have been imported from the USA. Most of these have been converted to motorhomes. Several more clippers are in the process of being restored. There is a Flixible Clipper Club of Australia with about 70 members. Bob's clipper is thought to be one of 4 coaches built specifically for Ansett-ANA airlines and is understood to have spent its entire service life with the airline. Bob purchased his clipper in Adelaide in 2020; it has had seven or eight owners, in several different states, prior to Bob.

On behalf of members, the President thanked Bob for his very interesting presentation.

Pam Corbett reminded members who had not done so to sign the attendance book and urged members to submit nominations for the Club Member of the Year award.

No matters relating to members' health and well-being were raised.

Raffle: Three raffle prizes were won.

The meeting closed at 8:10 pm.

A New Life; Toyota Celica RA28 Build

A story of a Celica that got passed from owner to owner, by Mark Wyatt.

Some background

In 2017, I purchased a Mustang-shaped Celica (RA28) off a gentleman named Lawrence, who was going to restore it but realized the scope of work was beyond his capability. Recently, I found out that the RA28 was also owned by the Canberra Celica Group and was going to be used as a track car. Previously, a gentleman named Jeremy Marsh purchased it back in 2008 as a shell from Melbourne (see pictures below). So, in essence, it has been a 'gonna' car for many years, passed from owner to owner, virtually untouched.



After purchasing it, it sat in my garage while I finished off some other projects. The intent was to build a TA22 Celica first, to learn from, before doing too much on this shell (as I have a tendency to start too many projects at the same time). Time passed, and I did little jobs like rust repairs but kept it relatively complete so that I knew where everything belongs. (See below, 2019)

A New Life; Toyota Celica RA28 Build

A story of a Celica that got passed from owner to owner, by Mark Wyatt.



An announcement

When my daughter got engaged in November of 2020, she asked if the Celica RA28 could be one of the bridal cars. OMG! Does she realize how long it takes? Two years to get it built! Time was ticking.

This started a major reshuffle of projects, planning, and working out finances to build a 'wedding-ready' car while working full-time and studying.



A New Life; Toyota Celica RA28 Build

A story of a Celica that got passed from owner to owner, by Mark Wyatt.

First on the cards was to strip it back and work out what was under the paint. What looked like a solid car had some hidden history. Like most 70's cars, there were plenty of questionable repairs, rust, and bodywork to complete. So, several months were spent getting it straight and as rust-free as possible without any 'off the shelf' repair panels. Starting with the engine bay, I discovered things were not square or solid. So, we started there to ensure it all had a good foundation.



Further along in the body, we had the usual sills and rear quarters that rust, so they were repaired. It's always a challenge to get compound curves shaped and looking factory. Shortly after these repair panels became available (which would have made the repairs easier). Stripping back the paint, there was plenty of filler, but most of the body was pretty solid. It was just a matter of getting it straight.

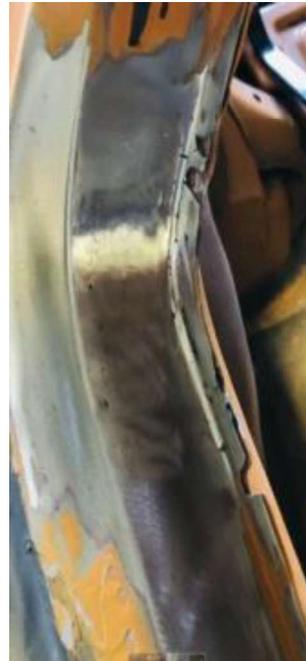


A New Life; Toyota Celica RA28 Build

A story of a Celica that got passed from owner to owner, by Mark Wyatt.

Rust, rust and more rust.

This car was 'okay' in this department (compared to many), but there were still some challenges. Tight curves and access points, weird shapes, and sheet metal of the roof. Eek! This was hard not to get out of shape. At this point, I was beginning to hate the car.



A New Life; Toyota Celica RA28 Build

A story of a Celica that got passed from owner to owner, by Mark Wyatt.

While I tried my best, using hammer and dolly, slap files, easy beats, and shrinking discs, having the skills to metal finish was beyond my skill level, so a skim of filler was used to ensure it was straight. Many, many hours were spent making sure things were true, both through metal finish and filler/primer. The amount of product, be it filler or high fill, that ends up on the floor is amazing.



Are we there yet?

Not quite—to find out how Mark's restoration project ended and whether the car made it to the wedding. look out for part 2 in next month's Wheel.

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Acco 6X6 1968 with standard 20 ton winch. Perkins 6-354 diesel.

Original Army Abbey crane, drop-side tipper. Currently used as farm truck and converts to bush fire truck when required. (The crane lifts tank and pump/hose on/off.) Tank and pump/reel not supplied.

Privately registered and annual servicing since 2001 (all records available). Will supply NSW roadworthy Pink Slip. Current historic car club rego. The truck is in very good condition, drive-train 100%, brakes 100%, tyres 97%.

The truck is located 30 min south of Canberra.

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\$24,900 negotiable. Please contact: jake7phelps@gmail.com
0432149381

SOUTHERN TABLELANDS HERITAGE AUTOMOTIVE RESTORERS CLUB INC

NOMINATION FOR CLUB PERSON(S) OF THE YEAR – 2024

NAME OF NOMINEE(S)

.....
(May be an individual or a couple)

NAME OF PROPOSER

.....

Signature:

.....

ACTION BY SECRETARY:

DATE RECEIVED.....2024

**ACTION BY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
MEMBERSHIP CHECK**

ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINEE: FINANCIAL MEMBER



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