



P.S.C.A.A. January 2024 Newsletter

President's Report



Parting out, is part of the past, the demise of the local wreckers.

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2024, and the first in our new bimonthly format.

For those of you that don't know I own a Ford Capri. Not the much-loved English sports coupe from the late 1960s but the very much un-loved Australian convertible from the early 1990s. I have a spare engine and transmission for this vehicle, It's in good order, low kilometers and would fit a number of other vehicles such as a TX3 laser or even an early Mazda MX5, but do you think I can get rid of it? Not for love nor money. It will end up at the tip. Which brings me to my point, the demise of the secondhand parts industry, 'the local wrecking yard'. My brother-in-law sent me a YouTube link to a video of a car being mechanically separated and shredded, the car was undamaged (at first) and looked no more than 15 years old. Why is there no market to part out this car to keep others of the same model on the road? It clearly had many serviceable parts on it. I think there are many reasons why the wrecking yard is on the way out. Firstly, new cars are reliable and relatively cheap, and this means that old cars, particularly ordinary ones, have very little value. Labour costs are so high now that it doesn't take very much panel damage to write off a relatively new car and the same goes for mechanical repairs. Wrecking yards were traditionally not very environmentally, or visually friendly places, and it seems that new environmental laws have it harder for many of them to survive in the modern world. Plus, they often sit on what has become valuable real estate particularly in metropolitan areas. People have always wanted new or near new cars and now it's easier to afford them.

I used to enjoy taking my tools and going in amongst the piled-up cars to remove the parts that I wanted, unsupervised. There is no way on gods earth that any wrecking yard would let you do that in today's litigious society.

SEE YOU ON THE ROAD Andrew Hamilton, President

PORT STEPHENS CLASSIC AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION – 2023-2024 COMMITTEE

President: Andrew Hamilton – 0435 393 816 – pscaa_president@hotmail.com.au

Vice-President: Keith Green – 0435 240 959 – kpgreen@iprimus.com.au

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Committee Member – Terry Appleby Photographer / Facebook 0498 266 764

Committee Member -- Laurie Nolan Membership Records 0406 747 847

Events Team:

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Committee Member – Brian Turner Assistant Events 0412 496 180

Committee Member – Charlie Aquilina Major Events 0404 084 420

Appointed Positions:

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Club Plates Co-ordinator Graham Clair **0422 290 937**

SWB Coordinator Lindy McLachlan **0400 828 217**

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Jeff Sinclair

Chris Bult

Terry Appleby (Photos)

Club Plates Team:

Graham Clair Plates Registrar 0422 290 937

Terry Appleby Assistant Registrar 0498 266 764

Charlie Aquilina **Rules Compliance** **0404 084 420**



Brian Turner

NEXT MEMBERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 14th 2024
in the
Crows Nest Room (top floor),
Nelson Bay Bowling Club @ 6pm

For The Diary

Next Cars and Coffee in the Bay Long boat Café Fingal, 9.30am Monday February 19th 2024

Rickshaws Hot Rod Club M.A.D. Car Show, Newcastle Harness Racing Club 4th Feb 2024

Tea Gardens / Hawks Nest Motorfest Saturday 9th March 2024. (this will be a Club Event)

PSCAA Workshop Morning Nelson Bay Sunday 14th of April 2024

All Euro Day (including UK) Foreshore Park Newcastle Sunday 16th June 2024

Jims Long Run Nabiac

Wednesday 15th November 2023

By Chris Bult



Once more Jim's Run was blessed with a fine day for the seven cars and nine members who rocked up at the Pearl Servo, Anna Bay for the run to Nabiac. New member John Harding arrived in his pristine 1998 Falcon XH Ute, which turned out to be a rare Dick Johnson special with only 400 made and comes standard with a potent V8 302 Windsor motor which emits a very nice bent eight burble. And lovely to have Jo Pearson in her grey 2017 Mustang along for the first time. I'm reliably informed she has a '67 'Stang back in the shed but opted for the retro pony this time out.

First stop for coffee was the Stroud Milk Bar & Café, which took us along the much-maligned Buckett's Way and it is good to report that one of the bridges has finally been repaired, leaving just one more still requiring traffic lights as work continues, albeit slowly. From there our convoy travelled through some lovely country, hills and dales to the popular town of Nabiac, which means (according to Wikipedia), 'Place of the wild fig'. Not too many wild figs on offer at the Greenhouse Café, but their extensive menu offered a wide variety of lunches and the conversation soon stopped when all the meals arrived together.

Well fed and watered it was time to head south for home. Intrepid scout John Kerr suggested we take the detour of Wootton Way for some 'interesting' driving rather than stay on the motorway. Turning off at Coolongolook ('Home of flying foxes...') we found we had this 'driver's road' to ourselves, with just one car seen travelling in the opposite direction. I have a dim recollection of this very road being part of the Pacific Highway back in the day and getting stuck behind a truck struggling up the steep inclines meant a slow trip indeed. Not today and we soon popped out back onto the motorway for an easy drive to Port Stephens.

Dropping me off at home, Graham Clare's Mustang GT trip-meter recorded a round trip of 330 kms and a very pleasant drive it was too, with good company, good food and safe driving.



Chris Bult

PSCAA New Zealand Cruise December 2023

“Day after day, day after day, we stuck nor breath nor motion, as idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean.”

By Madame President



Couldn't say that we were idle, 170,000 tons barreling along at between 19 and 23 knots, but it does pretty much sum up how stable the Royal Princess was. Very little movement even in a 4 metre swell.

Wouldn't you think that in the confines of a ship at sea that you would constantly run across members of your own group? Not so, with so many different activities and shore tours the reality was that it could be days before we saw another one of our group. In the end we arranged to meet at 5pm in the Wheelhouse bar where it was necessary to consume alcohol and honey coated peanuts to justify our presence. We rose to the challenge and did ourselves proud with margaritas and other large and often exotic beverages being consumed.

As you would expect, with a largish group there were different ideas about what any of us wanted to do. There were enough events to keep everyone happy ranging from Zumba classes, musical interludes, lectures on various maritime historic events, dancing, quiz shows, an art auction and for those of the particular persuasion – LGBTQ+ meetings which, as far as I know, none of our group attended. For the more hardy amongst usmovies under the stars.



The scenery was amazing, my favourite was Fiordland off the Southern tip of the South Island but all the stops had points of interest. Something for everyone including catching up with family members or purchasing goodies to take home.

To sum up it was a convivial, interesting, and relaxing holiday.

Avarst me hearties

The Presidents missus



The Poyers Christmas Lunch 13th December 2023



by Jeff Sinclair

Wednesday 13th December was a very warm sunny day and parking was at a premium in Lemon Tree Passage, however 41 Members of PSCAA quickly found a space, all eager to be seated in the delightful surrounds of The Poyers restaurant. There were a number of Christmas shirts, ear rings and other festive adornments, but 1st Prize had to go to the amazing decorated top hats worn by Jan and Mick! Well done!

Seats were taken, drinks were bought and the chatter began, all the time with a gentle breeze off the water blowing through the rear windows of the restaurant.

By now tastebuds were tingling in anticipation – soon to be satisfied in exquisite ways. First the warmed sourdough bread and butter, then an alternate drop of either of the following main dishes.

Ballotine of Chicken with Apricot and Pistachio on Parsnip Puree with Creamy Gnocchi and Asparagus, or
Beef Fillet (Medium) with Mash Baby Veg and Bearnaise Sauce.

My dish was the chicken which was superb and I was told that the beef dish was likewise.

After a suitable break, Ludovic appeared from the kitchen holding a tray bearing dessert – Buche de Noel (Christmas Log). (The 3 logs photo courtesy Brian Turner and the individual serving by me J S). I can only say it was melt-in-the-mouth perfection, light, tasty and not too sweet. Concluding the feast with tea or coffee, I think all who attended were very happy with the meal.



Mandy's (Mrs. Poyers!) team were well organized with efficient and discreet service, so a big "thank you" to all of them and of course Ludovic, for a most enjoyable pre-Christmas lunch



Maddie Hill Charity Car and Motorcycle Show

Messer's Aquilina, Appleby & Mannering - The Three wise Members



The Newcastle Kart Racing Club at Cameron Park was the venue for this charity event to raise money for the National Breast Cancer Foundation on Sunday 17 December and a very well attended event it turned out to be. The PSCAA was represented by an All American contingent of three Mustangs and two Corvettes, with

By Chris Bult



Peter Van Stappen proudly displaying his De Tomaso Pantera with the Ford Dynasty cohort – **'An Italian beauty with an American heart' one passing punter was heard to mutter...**

And it must be said, the vast majority of cars on display were American iron or their distant Australian cousins, with just a sprinkling of European machinery, among them a very original XJ Jaguar, a couple of Minis and even a mighty Morris 1000, refusing to be intimidated by the plethora of surrounding monster V8s. The most massive of them all, in dimensions at least – a white and blue Ford Shelby F-150 truck running a supercharged Coyote V8 motor, which would almost certainly: 'Eat RAMs for breakfast'.

But there were also earlier models aplenty, including some stunning Australian models from Ford and Holden. One immaculate XY GT Falcon was even jacked up, with the front wheel removed to reveal the quality of the underside, courtesy of full-length mirrors on the ground. And quality was in abundance at this show, with some of the restorations on these old vehicles absolutely stunning. And whilst no fan of the 'Hot-Rod', a couple of T-Bucket Fords were pristine and a credit to their owners, who had clearly spent a great deal of time and money to achieve such perfection. Wandering the 'aisles' with Graham Clare we came across a car neither of us could identify, although we both guessed it to be a 'gray import' and sure enough turned out to be a Toyota Crown Athlete with a gleaming black paint job and although the engine wasn't visible, probably a 3.5 litre petrol V6. A Toyota Century turned up at another car show recently, equally alluring in its exotic appeal, luxurious Oriental interior and V12 motor, but you have wonder how you'd go for parts, let alone finding someone who knew their way around its mechanicals?

As always at these shows, I found myself thinking – 'If I had to choose just one car to take home...'? For me it was a faithfully restored '68 Dodge Charger R/T, resplendent in red and



black. As everyone will recall...this was the very model (in sinister black naturally), the baddies drove in that iconic twelve minute car chase through San Francisco in the movie 'Bullitt'. It didn't end well for the baddies or their car, shunted off the road by Steve McQueen in his Mustang Fastback 390 and plunging into a petrol station to erupt in a ball of flames. One of the two original movie Mustangs recently sold at auction for well north of US\$3 million. Suspect the ashes of the Charger R/T may be in an urn on the mantle-piece of a Dodge tragic somewhere.

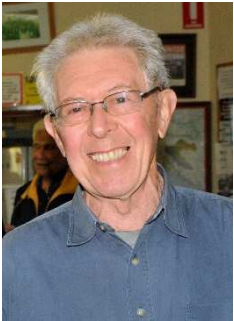
It was a great show for a worthy cause, hopefully to return in 2024 and provide an irresistible Mecca for we sorry petrol-heads.



This is sacrilege - ED

Tesla Purchasers Face Stink Problem!

By Jeff Sinclair



In Shaun Micallef's "Mad As Hell" comedy show, he took outrageous headlines for articles (mostly from The Daily Telegraph) and made fun of them and usually pointed out that they were misleading. So that is what I have done here in an attempt to grab your attention.

The real story is that, towards the end of October, a huge ship, the "Glovis Caravel" with thousands of new Tesla cars on board was due to dock at Brisbane to unload the vehicles, most of which were pre purchased. The ship was declared a biosecurity risk and not allowed into port. For weeks, sitting off-shore, the crew tried to solve the problem by fumigation, but to no avail, so finally, just before Christmas, she weighed anchor and took off back to Shanghai, where she arrived just after New Year. Eventually the word got out that Stink Bugs were the problem!

Anyone who has owned a lemon tree will know how difficult they are to eradicate – and they do stink! I know some manufacturers and dealerships spray the inside of vehicles with a fragrance to appeal to buyers, perhaps a citrus blend had been used in these Teslas! Disappointed purchasers will now have to wait for the next production run to receive their delivery. I wonder if the models on the Glovis Caravel will be sold, or whether they will join thousands of other EVs dumped in paddocks in China? I can't help thinking the whole episode sounds like a Jeremy Clarkson prank – expressing his opinion!

Talking Teslas (which I rarely do), the Sixt EV hire company so heavily promoted by the NRMA is disposing of Teslas in it's fleet, citing "high maintenance and low resale values".....Hmm.

Finally, for the V8 lovers in PSCAA, I am sure you will be delighted to know that there is now a Chinese electric MG being sold that has a pre-recorded V8 exhaust sound that you can rev while stationary and even gives a "kick down" sound when you accelerate to overtake! I can't find words to describe my excitement.....mmerr.

Nuff sed, Jeff.





Fridge Edition

January 2024

There is no Association Meeting or SWB this month

Monday 8 January - Monday Morning Coffee Run

Monday Morning Coffee at the **Pacific Dunes Golf Club**, at Medowie. **Please meet at the Pearl Servo for a 9.30am departure**, to enable us to do a head count and advise the venue of numbers attending.



Thursday 11 January – Pizza Night at Uncle Franks

A regular get together for a meal at **Uncle Franks Pizzeria** (next door to Jax Tyres at Salamander Bay). **Meet at the Venue at 6pm.**

Wednesday 17 January – Jims's Long Run

This one is for the driver in us all. **Long runs** are usually lunch runs with a round trip greater than 200 Km. Led by **John Kerr**, destination **Bulga Tavern** via **Morpeth** and **Lambs Valley**. Home via **Broke** and **Cessnock** (300 kms). **Meet at the Pearl Servo for a 9:30am departure.**



Friday 19 January - SMB

This months venue is the **Bread & Water** café at **East Maitland Gaol**. **Meet at the Pearl Servo 7.30am.**



Sunday 21 January – Breakfast in the Park

Breakfast in the park will be at **Conroy Park**, 70 Sandy Point Road, Corlette from 8.00 am. There are electric BBQ's to cook your bacon & eggs and some undercover seating. BYO everything including a chair.

Friday 26 January – Australia Day Car Show

Once again this year, the Nelson Bay Australia Day Committee will hold a car show for PSCAA classic vehicles. There will be 3 trophies on offer – Best Australian, Chairmans Choice, and Best in Show. Meet before 8.30 am in the carpark on the western side of Nelson Bay Bowling Club for the procession to Fly Point. Please note: participants must be prepared to stay until the Trophy presentation at around 1.00 pm.



Fridge Edition

Events February 2024

Thursday 1 February – Pub Lunch Run

Pub Lunch at the **Family Hotel, Maitland**.
Bookings are Essential. Contact John Kerr on 0421 459 577 or email johnnotbird48@gmail.com no later than midday, Wednesday 31st January
meet at the Pearl Servo for an 11.00 am departure.

Monday 5 February - Monday Morning Coffee Run

Monday Morning Coffee at the **Pacific Dunes Golf Club**, at Medowie.
Please meet at the Pearl Servo for a 9.30am departure, to enable us to do a head count and advise the venue of numbers attending.



Tuesday 13 February - Jims's Long Run

This one is for the driver in us all.
Long runs are usually lunch runs with a round trip between 200 - 300 km.
Led by **John Kerr**, destination **Gloucester** via **Paterson**, **East Gresford** and **Dungog**.
Home via **Buckets Way** (this road has been much improved thanks to almost constant road works over the last 12 months).
Meet at the Pearl Servo for a 9:30am departure.



Wednesday 14 February - Assoc. Meeting

Will be held at the **Nelson Bay Bowling Club** in the **Crows Nest Room** on level 2, followed by dinner at **Fin & Scales Restaurant** (for those who are up to it).
Meeting commences at 6.00 pm.

Thursday 15 February - Pizza Night at Uncle Franks

A regular get together for a meal at **Uncle Franks Pizzeria** (next door to Jax Tyres at Salamander Bay). **Meet at the Venue at 6pm.**

Thursday 22 February - SWB

This months' venue is **Negronis**, 77 Magnus Street, **Nelson Bay**. Please text **Lindy** on 0400 828 217 if you are attending as we need to advise the venue re numbers.
Meet at the venue at 1.00 pm.

Friday 23 February - SMB

This months' venue is **The Farmer's Wife** on **Buckets Way** at **Allworth**.
Meet at the Pearl Servo at 7.30 am.



Club Plates News:

Don't forget to ring before you renew, contact Graham Clare on 0422 290 937 to arrange where he will stamp your papers.

Make sure you have your pink slip with you when you get your declaration form stamped. Graham is supposed to sight it when he processes your form and as one of our members found out last year, if the staff at the Motor Registry notice that the pink slip is dated after the date on the stamped Historic Vehicle Declaration form, they will reject the renewal.

Lastly, we need to see your car, Graham is required to certify that the car meets the eligibility requirements of the historic vehicle scheme, and he can't in good faith do this if he hasn't seen the car recently. Club workshop mornings are a great opportunity to have your car sighted.

Next Newsletter

Sunday 10th March 2024



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SUMMER IS HERE

and

IT'S WARMING UP

***P.S.C.A.A. Club members will receive
a discount from Bay Auto Air***