

# Western Sydney Historical Truck Club



May 2015

## Recent Events:

### **OBERON HIGHLANDS STEAM & VINTAGE FAIR - February 2015**



The WSHTC Convoy 15 Km's from Oberon

On Friday we left home late in the day but caught up to the WSHTC convoy just as it turned off the Jenolan Caves road for the final 15 km's to Oberon. The convoy, if you can call that, was Andy Nash with his collection of toys on the tilt-tray leading Bruce Brown in the 'much spoken about rice burning, bio-diesel powered, super-fast Toyota'.

On arrival at the sports ground Bruce unhitched the caravan, offloaded the jeep, parked the Toyota and then settled down for a barbecue dinner. Andy offloaded his toys with some assistance or may be hindrance from me before we headed off to the Big Trout Motel and our respective wives. Over dinner Andy, Anne, Jann and myself fixed the world's problems.

Saturday was a warm and bright sunny day, the perfect setting for the annual Steam & Machinery Fair at Oberon. As in previous years the crowd lined both sides of the main street in anticipation of the street parade. Right on 10am the two pipe bands started up and led the procession of steam traction engines, tractors, cars, trucks and military vehicles.



bagpipe bands and tractors lead the street parade





After the parade the vehicles assembled in their allotted areas for the day's fun. There was quite a selection of cars. The smallest car was an Austin 7 which you could put on the bonnet of the largest car, a Cadillac. The most unusual car was a Tatra, made in Czechoslovakia, with a V8 engine in the boot. In bargain corner there was a 1940s 'jail-bar' Ford truck for sale. It was definitely a candidate for a full ground up restoration.



V8 Tatra



Austin 7



1940s jail-bar Ford truck



Cadillac



Steam powered road roller

I have often heard the term "steam roller" used to describe a diesel powered machine that rolls ground flat. But this all changed when I saw a real steam powered roller in action rolling flat an already flat car park.

All things considered it was a wonderful weekend away, seeing interesting things, catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. I'm looking forward to returning again next year.

# LOCKHART VERANDAH TOWN'S 7th NATIONAL HISTORIC TRUCK and COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SHOW - March 2015

Arriving at Lockhart Showground



I travelled to Lockhart on Friday with Bruce Brown in his, now famous, Toyota DA115. The intention was to travel in convoy with Dave West in his Diamond-T and Peter Hand in his Dodge Paper Truck. However, Bruce & I arrived late at the designated meeting place and so the others left ahead of us. Contrary to popular 'true lies' the Toyota is no speed wagon, particularly when it has Bruce's 1941 prototype Willys Jeep inside a protective canopy on board and the caravan towed behind. The canopy which acts like a full-time air brake on the truck and the strong head winds slowed us down dramatically but we managed to set up camp at the showground before sundown.



As if on cue a steady stream of vintage trucks, cars and tractors flowed in Saturday morning and took their place. The arrivals from the day before were repositioned facing the main gate.



This year the feature vehicle of the show was Dodge and Graham Bros Trucks, the latter being the forerunner to Dodge from about 1919 to 1928. This feature was to celebrate 100 years of Dodge in Australia. There were prizes awarded for the Oldest feature truck; the feature truck driven the furthest to the show and The Best Local Farm Truck, of any make and in any condition.



The award for longest distance travelled to the show went to Peter Hands green Dodge Paper Truck. It failed the first two attempts at climbing "Skyline" and returned home each time for repairs - the engine was being starved of fuel when the alternator, which the electric fuel pump was connected to, turned off the charge when the battery was 100%. Subsequently the power to the pump turned off too. Solution - drive with the lights on...all the time. So at 12.30am Saturday morning, Peter set off for Lockhart, third time successful, arriving just before breakfast, caravan in tow.

Peter Hands Dodge Paper Truck



Graham Robb's military collection



There were many interesting people and trucks at this show. One was Graham Robb, from Albury, who had a 1942 Ford Blitz military construction dump truck, trailer and 1941 Willys Jeep.

*...Love beyond all faults, cry behind closed doors ...*



Garry Livingstone and his Diamond Reo

All vehicles were in military livery and looked very smart.

Another interesting story was from Garry Livingstone, a member of the Urana Machinery Club. He had brought along his Diamond Reo prime mover, a truck that he had driven from brand new, for ten years, before his boss gave him the truck.

Harry and Marj Brown from Stockinbingal, NSW brought their 1962 Kenworth S900 prime mover & trailer. It was originally owned by Ansett Freight Express. Harry & Marj have owned it for over 40 years, running interstate until 1990. It was converted into an articulated motor home in 1991 and used until 2010.

The ladies were not forgotten as there were about 50 patchwork quilts were on display in the big shed. The quality and workmanship of the quilts was magnificent. 35 of the quilts displayed were supplied by Bruce Brown's wife Kaye. I am biased of course. My wife, Jann, is a patchworker.

The crowd numbers were down on last years because of the many other organised events in the district but the show was wonderful. I enjoyed the company of friends - new & old and saw some fabulous examples of living transport history. I look forward to what next year's show will hold.

See [www.wshtc.com.au](http://www.wshtc.com.au) for more on this event



Kenworth S900 articulated motor home



## TRUCK MUSTER - Hunter Valley Vintage Commercial Vehicle Show



The truck Muster held at Maitland Showground is a display of restored vintage commercial vehicles, historic fire engines, military vehicles & buses and vintage farm machinery.



One particularly interesting vehicle was a 1967 Citroen model type H. Conceived as a delivery van, the H-van employed the characteristic Citroen front wheel drive to provide a very low loading height together with full standing. The distinctive corrugated panel work provided rigidity and permitted the use of thin-gauge steel sheet. Imported from France in August 2013 it is now a retired fire truck.

Another interesting exhibit was a vintage bus, in military livery, now a mobile military museum displaying memorabilia from the Vietnam war.



*....and fight battles that nobody knows about.*

## Harden Truck & Tractor Show - Sunday 22 March 2015

Harden lies in the beautiful rolling countryside in the South West Slopes region of NSW Australian agricultural heartland. It grows sheep, cattle, canola, wheat, stone fruit, wine grapes and olives. The truck and tractor show was held at the Murrumburrah Showground and was well catered. It was a very good day with lots to see. There were 70 trucks and tractors on display as well as market stalls, photo and quilting displays. Overall it was a surprising event for its second year. We will return again next year.



## White Muster - Kyabram, Victoria - March 2015 travel log & photos by Noelene West

After leaving home in the dark at 6.45 am Friday, daylight greeted us at Douglas Park with a beautiful sunrise. We stopped at Yass for food and fuel and, met up with Peter Hand. We also had a surprise meeting with Boris Satara who we know through the RCA car club. Boris was on his way to one of the Salt Lakes where his son races his car and Peter travelled with us as far as Gundagai where he was going to visit his son. After Yass there was a strong head wind which got stronger the further we travelled towards Kyabram. We stopped at Albury for fuel before arriving in Kyabram about 5.00 pm. and booked into our cabin, dinner and bed.

The "early bird" was up and gone by 8.00am to take the truck to the showground. Trevor Supertrucker had arrived early - about 1.00am. It was another beautiful day. I had a lazy start and got to the showground about 10.30am. There was a great display of trucks (see Ray's report at the end) and some vintage and classic cars.

The White Muster wasn't just about White Trucks it was also a vintage machinery show. So as I was approaching the gates the familiar putt, putt, putt, knock, knock, knock, phhht, phhht sounds came to my ears. It was unbelievable the number of steam engines, Villiers engines and very clever inventions using steam. A working display of a very old hay baler, shearing by hand and mechanised clippers, a steam driven log saw, just to name a few.



White Muster Kyabram continued

It was quite an interesting day. I counted 261 different steam driven machines and inventions, and Villiers machines being demonstrated.

There were some wonderful and varied collections on display. - Washing pegs, buttons, cyclops bikes and cars, oil cans, wooden toys, old radios. There were also working demonstrations including wood machining, morse code, leather working, sewing – the list goes on and on! - Something for everyone.

There was choice of great tasting hamburgers, hot fresh chips, cold drinks and, the ladies provided, sandwiches, cakes and hot drinks. The toilets were well kept and clean. The PA system was great. The trucks and cars were sited very well. It was a very well organised but laid back muster. Full credit must go to Ray Grima, Michelle and family.

The Saturday night dinner was held at the Kyabram Club - a very nice sit down, three course meal enjoyed in good company.

Sunday saw the “early bird” fly out by 8.00am. The lazy partner got to the showground about 11 00am. It was another lovely day, just mooching about, eating, drinking and telling true lies. It was great to catch up with Ray and also Marg and Ray Brown. We left the showground about fourish as most people had packed up by then. We had a few drinks, dinner and a fairly early night.

We left Kyabram at about 7.00am on Monday morning and had a good trip home – It was a long trip though, about ten hours - with a couple of stops for fuel and food. The red truck travelled 800 miles or 1280 kms, averaged 12.65 miles/gal or 4.44 kms/l at an average speed from 86-89 kms/hour. Would you believe we passed a couple of heavily laden modern trucks on the hills but they soon made up ground on the downwards side!!

It was an excellent weekend !!

The following is from the White Muster Face Book Page:

“Thanks to all our exhibitors for making the effort to attend, some travelling great distances. Here is the White Muster round up tally.

1920s White x 1, White Model 802 x 1, White Superpower x 3, White Mustangs x 2, White 3000 x 2, White 4000 x 2, White 7564 x 1, White 9000 x 7, White Road Boss x 5, White Road Commander x 10, White Tractor x 1, Reo x 2, Diamond Reo x 1, Diamond T x 6, Western Star x 9, Clectrac x 2, Oliver-Clectrac x 3. That’s a total of 58 Whites made and related items not including 3 x White Lawn Mowers and Don Hughes’ White memorabilia display. That’s a fantastic effort! Brand “X” trucks – 70. That makes this year’s White Muster the biggest so far. Let’s see if we can make the 2017 White Truck Muster even bigger!” – Ray Grima



**Where did these guys get OH&S training??**



**WARNING - WARNING - WARNING !!**

*Please note that membership of the Western Sydney Historical Truck Club comes with specific obligations...*

For a member to be eligible to get historic vehicle registration for his/her vehicle the member has to earn the right to get it!

In accordance with the Club's constitution a person must be a member for a 12 month period and take part in several club organised events before registration will be considered.

**Do not tell your mates any different as this may offend them when they are told "NO"**

The Club's registration protocol is continually under the scrutiny of the RMS.  
Your co-operation would be appreciated.

**Member Profile - Mike Dodds**

Mike spent the first 2 years of life in Melbourne before the family moved to Sydney. He has lived in the Hills District with his wife Jann for the past 35 years and they have one daughter. He has been a member of WSHTC since the club started in 2009.

His first job was during Christmas school holidays, working as a general hand in a warehouse. Mike spent 20 years working in the construction industry as a quantity surveyor. He then set up his own strata property maintenance business in 1994 and recently retired after 20 years.

His interests include restoring his old truck, photography and writing. Mike first became interested in trucks in 1995 when looking for a vehicle to restore and play around with. The first and only truck in his collection is a 1938 International model D15 tray truck, still undergoing restoration. As for plans for future additions to his collection.... a lack of suitable storage space and finance prohibit such plans.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday 16 May** - Putty Road Truck Drivers Memorial and Reunion - memorial service at Garry E. Miller Park, Milbrodale at 1pm and reunion social night at Singleton Golf Club.

**Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 May** - Campbelltown Steam & Machinery Museum field days. 9.00am to 3.30pm. 86 Menangle Rd, Menangle. For more information phone 0417 215 513 anytime, answer service connected.

**Saturday 30 - Sunday 31 May** - The 5th Annual Sydney Classic and Antique Truck Show at the Museum of Fire, 1 Museum Drive, Penrith.  
 Saturday 30 May arrival and set up, Mulgoa Rumble Drive and evening meal. Sunday 31 May Show Day - 8am to 3pm.  
 For further details and entry form copy & paste the link <http://pwts.com.au/scaats-2015.html>.  
 Please write at the top of the form "WSHTC" or you will not be with the Club Stand.

**Saturday 6 - Sunday 7 June (June Long Weekend)** Take a trip down memory lane to help raise money to build a Transport Heritage Centre in Gundagai to preserve and display Australia's road transport history, its people as well as the machines that carried Australia's freight. Organised by Australian Road Heritage Centre - Gundagai. For more information Phone Jim on 0408 441 495 or Daryl 0427 756 698

**Sunday 21 June Run Day.** - Meet at truck parking bay The Northern Road, Glenmore Park @ 10.00am. BYO picnic lunch

**Sunday 5 July** - 10.00am WSHTC Club AGM at Andy Nash's Metropolitan Towing 2/17 Sunblest Crescent, Mount Druitt. Lunch provided, bring chair & cup

**Saturday 11 - Sunday 12 July** - Wauchope truck Show at Wauchope Showground

**Sunday 26 July** - Breakfast Run 8.30am Mulgoa Park. Bring \$6.00, chair and cup

**Wednesday 26 - Monday 31 August 2015 - Alice Springs Transport Hall of Fame Reunion ~**  
 For information on planned itinerary for members wanting to drive in convoy to Alice Springs, Phone Dutchy 0425 253 253

**Money Matters... advance notice for your diary.**

***Membership renewal fees are due and payable before 30 June 2015***

**WANTED: Stories and photos of Members restoration projects for inclusion in the newsletter and the WSHTC website. Tell us the story of when and where you found your project and the journey taken to restore it back to life.**

*All contributions for publishing in the next Newsletter can be mailed to  
 PO Box 369, Plumpton 2761, or emailed to [wshtc@rocketmail.com](mailto:wshtc@rocketmail.com)*

Mike Dodds, editor