

Western Sydney Historical Truck Club



April 2017

The Highlands Steam and Vintage Fair - at Oberon - 11 February

The early morning fog that camouflaged the road to Oberon last year was absent this time. The mystical township was still on top of the hill, at the end of the winding road. The sun was shining brightly and the temperature was rapidly rising. There was a warm breeze blowing, but it was better than no breeze at all.

The street parade signalled the start of the festivities. This year it was a bit different... There was an interesting event in a back street while others were lining up for the parade. Two of the steam powered traction engines were in a "drag race" to be first at the start. The thought of a drag race conjures up the image of roaring engines, screeching tyres, smoke and high speed. Well there was certainly smoke but that's where it ended. All on-coming traffic had to take evasive action or become scrap metal. Boys and girls from the Scots School, Bathurst made up the only pipe band to lead the procession from the northern end of town to the Showground. Following directly behind the band were four steam traction engines including the two "dragsters". They were followed by vintage, classic and sporty cars, tractors and trucks.

At the showground, the entry road was lined on both sides with stalls selling a variety of trinkets, collectables, crafts, food, drinks and ice cream, etc.

Also at the grounds was a unique tricycle ridden by an equally uniquely dressed rider. The tricycle was an "1826 Coventry Rotary tricycle" owned and ridden by John Kitchen from Bathurst. John is a master bicycle frame builder. He specialises in Penny Farthing bicycles, tandems and tricycles.



Highlands Steam & Vintage Fair continued Standing out, in a corner of the paddock surrounded by beautiful vintage and classic cars, was a pre-1930's Dodge Brothers tray back truck with timber cabin and tray with timber rail drop sides. It was clearly in need of restoration. A sign by the owner listed parts he was looking for and information where they could be obtained.



As the temperature soared towards the mid 40's people sought out shade wherever they could find it. Some people hid under umbrellas, some wore hats with very broad brims and cool drinks were in high demand.

A strong wind arrived just before 1.00pm blowing dust all over the place and causing items not secured to fly with the dust.

As in previous years this year's Highland Steam and Vintage Fair had its own unique attractions which makes each year worthwhile to visit Oberon again.

2016-17 Committee members		
President / Assistant Registrar	Andy Nash	0418 277 271
Vice President	Darrell Killick	0412 050 224
Secretary / Newsletter Editor	Mike Dodds	0417 068 144
Treasurer	Linda Farlow	0425 304 632
Registrar	Steve Pardey	0412 646 280
Safety Officers	Ron Ross	4576 3423
	Dave West	4658 1649 w/answer service
Major Events Coordinators	Bruce Gunter	0459 991 929
	Dave "Chappo" Chapman	0404 850 037

***** Please Note: *****
Fees are due & payable by the end of June 2017

WSHTC AGM - SUNDAY 16 July at 10.00am

12 March - Lunch Run & pre-Haulin' the Hume Test and Tune

It was a perfect day for the lunch run. Twelve members participated in what turned out to be a rather unusual event. There seemed to be some confusion about when to be at the Glenmore Park meeting point.... Some thought 9am, some 10am and some 10.30am. The newsletter had 9.30am. So... we got underway a little late...

Dennis (Rusty) Radburn drove his recently restored 1976 D1610 International single axle prime mover from Nowra, accompanied by his 11year old granddaughter. And, yes she can drive and, she has her sights set on owning her father's "toy" truck...a Kenworth no less!

We travelled along the Northern Road down to Camden, down the Camden bypass and then that's when things changed from the schedule. We split into two separate groups...the advance party and the rear guard. The advanced party pulled just off the main drag at Fink Road to wait for the others. A little while later the others flew straight ahead on their way to Mittagong for lunch.



The advanced party then continued along Fink Road, for a scenic trip to Picton. From Picton, up the Razorback where we paid our respects at the blockade memorial before descending to our lunch destination, the Oakdale Workers' Club. After lunch we drove down to the Burragarang Lookout to complete the run before returning home.



Brekky Run @ Blacktown City Show - Blacktown

For the days before the brekky run, the weather forecast was not promising. It had rained all day the day before. The idea of breakfast in the pouring rain could not conjure up much interest so breakfast was cancelled. That said, we were committed to put in an appearance and not let the side down.

Come early Sunday morning it was still wet. I drove along the narrow road that snaked around the showground track. It was lined on both sides with caravan stalls that had been set up the day before. They were still locked up, looking forlorn and missing the energy that would bring them to life.

...then your search for happiness will never end.

Brekky Run @ Blacktown City Show continued... Eventually people started arriving, the rain eased and soon the place was opening up for business. The Merry-Go-Round, Cha-Cha and Gravitron went through their safety checks.



The Featherdale Animal Farm was a magnet for children wishing to cuddle baby animals. The Punch and Judy Show had quite a young audience. Some very talented and entertaining kids performed song and dance routines on the stage.



The WSHTC boys had a health check and were given the all clear, subject to a couple of provisos. As the morning became afternoon the sun shone and the auction took place raising much needed money for cancer research for the Cancer Council.



"Mack" owners would have been in their element with most of the merchandise for auction inscribed with the Mack insignia.



A big attraction of the show was the 'Ute Muster'. Presentations of the

'best ute' in various categories were awarded to winners following the auction. WSHTC had our trucks entered into the competition. Andy Nash came away with 6 awards for his 'Dodgey Bago' tow truck, Ford F250 firetruck and the Quarter Pounder. Mike Dodds accepted a plaque of appreciation for WSHTC participation at the Show. All winners were photographed with the Miss Blacktown Show Girl winner and runner up, and the Inspector of Blacktown Police Service. Despite this being the first ever wet Blacktown Show on record and with low gate numbers reflecting this we had a great time. We met some new friends and intend to return again next year.

A few "sunny" photos from the Harden Truck and Tractor Show



Unlike the weather in Sydney, it was perfect at Harden.



◀ Rusty Radburn won Best Truck for his 1976 D1610 International prime mover

Never argue with a fool, people may not notice the difference.

Lockhart Vintage Verandah Fest - 4th March 2017

Story & photos by Noelene West

Another enjoyable weekend at Lockhart. When we finally escaped the rain – just outside of Goulburn the weather really changed around. We did not take the Diamond but the 4 WD and caravan.



We arrived at Lockhart just before Bruce Brown and his mate Billy Bell.

Out to the showground and set up camp. Bob Irwin and Marj and Harry Brown were there to greet us. Spent some time catching up and enjoying their company .

Saturday dawned bright and sunny. By 10.00 am the trucks started to arrive and in total there were 22 trucks, 2 stationary engines, an assortment of older cars and tractors.

Had a good day catching up and enjoying the dinner supplied by the local ladies. Such beautiful salads and desserts. The BBQ was cooked by Bruce and Bob. As usual they did a really great job. Bob also spent time helping the organisers to set up the hall.

After dinner we were entertained by two ladies from Wagga playing their piano accordions. Really great stuff!

Our thanks go to Peter Smith and his helpers for organising a really good weekend.

The proceeds from this weekend go towards sponsoring two youngsters from the area to attend the Royal Sydney Show.

Sunday- another really lovely morning – early breakfast and packed up and headed for home.

Who was there from WSHTC? Bruce Brown, Billy Bell, Bob Irwin, Dave and Noelene West, Marj and Harry Brown, MJ Taylor.

The Seventh White Truck Muster, Kyabram - 18 & 19 March 2017



Story & photos by Noelene West

On arrival on Friday afternoon (17th March) at the Kyabram Showground (venue for the 7th Muster) the ground was already half full with trucks, vintage tractors, stationary engines, classic and vintage cars, bikes, steam traction machines, and various stalls were already set up.

One shed had all sorts of displays from years gone by and included household goods, clothes, cooking utensils, work related tools. Another shed had working displays of wood turning, sewing machines, meccano sets and train displays. There were also static displays of old toy cars, prams, different types of glass containers, old milk and cream bottles, tins of oil, tobacco tins, buttons, baskets , the list is endless. ***The mind boggles.***

Outside displays included working displays of sheep shearing, log cutting saws, hay baling, stationary engines driving all sorts of pumps, merry go rounds, windmills, a milking cow (fascinating stuff), old bikes and scooters.

If silence is golden, not many people can be arrested for hoarding

White Muster, Kyabram continued The White Trucks and associated manufactures vehicles marshalled on the inner showground totalled approximately 88 and other makes of trucks totalled 67 and were assembled in the outer area. A B61 Mack fire unit with a massive extension ladder was a very good display. Saturday night's dinner at the Kyabram Club was excellent. The guest speaker, Mr Doug Shand, General Manager of Western Star Trucks Australia put on an excellent film of years ago which told the story of the White Truck Company Australia to the takeover by Western Star Company, Canada – still operating successfully. The raffle and auction were enthusiastically supported. To Ray and Michelle Grima – thank you and to all your unsung helpers – **well done!!** The profits from this muster go to several charities. An excellent weekend with perfect weather and crowd numbers were very good. See you in 2019.



**“HAULIN’ THE HUME” - HIGHWAY 31 ROAD RUN
APRIL 2107**



Friday 7th set up - Vehicles started arriving at Clarendon early on Friday. Some had travelled very long distances...Most of the earl arrivals were from interstate. One “Flixible Clipper” travelled the longest, coming from Tasmania.



The drenching rain of previous weeks had caused severely soggy conditions at the showground. Through the efforts of the marshals and the professionalism of drivers, no damage was caused to the grounds. Bruce Gunter received a message of appreciation from the grounds management for the consideration of the drivers.



5pm and the trucks keep on arriving...

Some people get lost in thought because it is unfamiliar territory

The registration truck



Settled in for the night at Clarendon



At lights out on Friday night there were 250+ vehicles at Clarendon ready for the run to Yass,



From 5pm Bruce Brown and his team of helpers provided a great feed for the modest price of \$10. \$379 was raised and donated to ASPECT Autism Spectrum..

Saturday 8th - Like all long haul truck drivers who have travelled the Hume before us, we were up at the crack of dawn. Everything was double checked including maps and instructions. Clarendon was shrouded in fog. The first to set off was the Clipper Club followed 15 minutes later by a 1929 Dodge and 1927 International (pictured).

To be continued...



1929 Dodge & 1927 International SL34

To write with a broken pencil is pointless

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 20 May - Putty Road Truck Driver's Memorial and Reunion - memorial service at Garry E. Miller Park, Milbrodale at 1pm and reunion social night at Singleton Golf Club, Boundary Road, Singleton. For information phone Paul Crollick 0408 472 250; Shane Kent 0419 287 159 or Marie Warby 0414 631 206.

Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 May - 9.00am to 3.30pm "Oil, Steam & Kerosene" Family Fun Day at Campbelltown Steam & Machinery Museum, 86 Menangle Road, GILEAD.
For details phone 0417 215 513

Saturday 27 - Sunday 28 May - The Seventh Annual Sydney Classic and Antique Truck Show at the Museum of Fire, 1 Museum Drive, Penrith. Arrival, set up, Mulgoa Rumble and evening meal Saturday. Show day Sunday. For further information and entry form refer to website: www.museumof fire.com.au or phone (02) 4731 3000. Write "WSHTC on the top of the entry form so we can stay together as a Club display unit.

Sunday 25 June - Breakfast Run at 8.30am at the old checking station, Pacific Highway Berowra. Bring \$6.00, chair and cup/mug. Please let Bruce know for catering purposes 0428 545 328. Membership fees can be paid this day.

Sunday 16 July - WSHTC AGM at Andy Nash's Metropolitan Towing, 2/17 Sunblest Crescent, Mount Druitt. Lunch provided, bring chair and Cup/mug. Meet at 10.00am

Sunday 13 August - Breakfast Run at 8.30am at Warragamba Centre. Bring \$6.00, chair and cup/mug. Please let Bruce know for catering purposes 0428 545 328.

Sunday 10 September - Breakfast Run at 8.30am Mulgoa Park. Bring \$6.00, chair and cup/mug. Please let Bruce know for catering purposes 0428 545 328.

Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 September - The Clarendon Classic including the Kenworth Klassic

Sunday 28 October - Portland Spring Fair and Swap Meet. Kremer Park Showground, Cnr of Laurie and Lime Streets. For details phone 0429 001 918 or 0467 590 648

Saturday 11 November - Goulburn "Convoy for Kids". Meet At Pheasants Nest Servo at 7.00am (like last year) \$10 per truck entry. A great family day out and fundraising for local Goulburn kids with cancer and severe disabilities. There is a possible stop at "Truck Stop 31" on the return home.

Other Events of Interest

Friday 21 - Sunday 23 April - The National Diesel, Dirt & Turf Expo at Penrith Panthers, Mulgoa Road, Penrith. Free entry for the whole family.

Sunday 23 April - Oakville Fire Brigade's Family Fun Day & Car Show. 139 Old Pitt Town Road, Pitt Town. Enquiries Ian 0407 774 348

Sunday 23 April - The 44th Annual General Motors Display Day at the Museum of Fire, Museum Drive, Penrith. 8.00am - 2.00pm Display vehicles \$15, Spectators free. More info Ron Fraser 0432 897 757

Sunday 28 May - Taree Rescue Squad "Weekend on Wheels Charity Motor Show" at Jack Neal Oval, Cowper Street, Taree. Enquiries John de Gray Birch 0427 427 374