

Western Sydney Historical Truck Club



May 2014

23 February, "Breaky" Meeting - Warragamba Centre



There was a good roll up of members and vintage trucks to our first 'breaky' meeting for 2014. There was a lot of discussion and catching up with friends before, during and after the gourmet breakfast. Five year old Emily showed off her sausage cooking skills while her parents and Brad Dwyer watched on. Come the time for the meeting, Brad held court and outlined some of the events planned for the rest of the year, including more 'breaky' meetings and lunch runs.



Membership Contact List ???

A query has been raised about a members contact list. At present this information is subject to the Privacy Act and members would have to agree to their details being made available to other members. It is envisaged that the list would be limited to name, phone number and email address only.

Please let Brad Dwyer know your thoughts on this. You must advise Brad if you are happy to have you details on the contact list.

National Historic Truck & Commercial Vehicle Show - Lockhart

story & photos by Bruce Brown



We set out early on Friday morning for a casual drive to Lockhart. When we pulled into the checking station at Marulan one inspector ask me "What IS IT?" Then had three go over & under the truck looking everywhere for a non-existent compliance plate, One guy pointed to the small patch of motor oil on the weigh bridge and seemed satisfied when I told him that in the Toyota parts book there is a parts number for that.

After leaving Marulan we played leap frog with Dave and Noelene West's Diamond T all the way to Lockhart. I finished a close second after the Diamond T – although I didn't lose – I just didn't win. When we arrived on Friday arvo we were met by some of the organisers who were a most friendly bunch. They directed us stake a claim near a powered site wherever we liked. I was taken aback to find my matt red & grey Toyota had found a long lost relative... another red Toyota! Only this one had a heart transplant with a screaming UD motor.

There were between 55 & 60 trucks on display, 4 of those from WSHTC. Gary & Rita Schroder turned up in their NRMA Dodge tow truck on Saturday morning.

There were prizes for all items on display - trucks, cars and machinery. A B61 Mack took out 1st prize for the trucks.

There were lots of stalls - antiques, swap meet bits & pieces, and numerous food & drink stalls. For those who wanted, there was sit down Pizza, dessert and tea in the pavilion. There was a free barbeque breakfast for all the campers on Sunday morning.

We had a great weekend at Lockhart and I, for one, will be heading back there next year if I'm still on the top side of the grass.



National Historic Truck & Commercial Vehicle Show - Lockhart ... from a Different Perspective

Story and photos by Noelene West



We left Camden about 10.00 o'clock on a sunny Friday morning. The red truck travelled really well (there and back). We arrived in Yass at 1.00 o'clock, topped up with fuel and had lunch. Waited a while for Bruce Brown but he had gone onto Bookham. We left Yass about 2.15 pm and arrived in Lockhart about 5.15 pm.

Lockhart is a very pretty village with lots of statues and a wide main street and paths. All the stores have wide verandas as well and inscribed plaques on the paths. Very impressive. We drove to the Caravan Park and on the way ran into Peter (one of the organisers) who told us that Bruce was at the Lockhart Showground. We drove out there to catch up with him and see if he wanted a hand to set up. However when we got there it was not Bruce Brown but Neville from Deniliquin. They both drive rustic looking Toyotas. We waited until Bruce arrived at about 6.00 o'clock. It turned out that Bruce needed an extra power cord to get his caravan connected to the power supply.

We volunteered to get that and book into the Caravan Park while we were in town. We arrive at the park and are greeted by a group from Echuca. "That's your cabin", they say. Bummer it is locked. They tell us that the manager lives just around the corner and to go there and collect the key. Off we toddle to find that we are not booked in and the van has been booked by some one else. What!!!!!! The manager said she would call the Commercial Hotel to see if they had anything available. Yep, they say, a twin room with shared bathroom facilities (\$35.00/night). Not a worry - it turns out there were only three of us staying at the hotel. We booked in and bought the power cord for Bruce and returned to the Showground.



Bruce and his buddy (Bob Wheeler) had settled in and the ladies committee were setting up Kay and Bruce Brown's antique quilts (40 of them would you believe). The organising committee were very impressed and grateful for their efforts. My photos do not do them justice. All is good so we return to town and settle in. Beautiful meal at the pub – they obviously have an excellent chef. Some chit-chat with the group from Echuca and the local clientele, and off to bed.

After complimentary toast and coffee at the hotel we set off for the showground on a sunny Saturday morning. The weather was perfect although very hot on Saturday with the threat of thunderstorms later in the day. Bruce loaded and covered his jeep just in case the stormy weather arrived. The storms did not eventuate although there had been quite a lot of lightning on Friday night and Saturday night too.

We had a great day. Checking out the trucks (55) and a number of good looking cars. Sitting around gas-bagging and eating. Gary and Rita Schroeder arrived in his recently restored NRMA Dodge replica of the original truck which had been owned by Frank Brooking. They were there for the day only as they had other commitments for the Sunday. Bruce used his jeep to give the kids and adults trips around the site. The jeep ride is always very popular. He also used it to take Judith Peel (Committee Member for this event) around the site to collect numbers for the Saturday night get together!



The Lockhart Showground is being upgraded. They have refurbished the pavilion and the entry gate is really different. It is made up of wool bales from the surrounding properties. They have planted additional trees and upgraded their power supply for the campers. They have done work on the livestock pens and the pavilion. According to Peter (another organiser of this event) that the upgrading will be ongoing as funding becomes available.

We had dinner at the showground with some of the other participants. Pizza and cake for dessert. They also provided a band but we were a little weary and returned to the hotel after dinner. The Victorian crew were there so we had a couple of drinks with them and found out that a couple of them and their little dog had been given a ride into town in Bruce's jeep – they were really chuffed and had thoroughly enjoyed their little jaunt!

On Sunday we headed out to the Showground about 8.00 o'clock. Had a quick breakfast and a chat with the remaining participants (not too many) and headed for home.

Fuelled up at Wagga Wagga and Goulburn and had lunch at Goulburn. We arrived home about 3.00 o'clock after an uneventful trip home which is always a bonus.



We had a great weekend and plan on going there again in 2016.



Test & Tune Run for "Crawlin' the Hume" in April



Sunday 16 March - Fine and partly cloudy, not too hot...a good day for the run. At the starting gate was Ron with his F350, Joe with his KW 'Gold Nugget', Rob with his 'ghostly' blue KW Aerodyne and Brad with his Black Victory two-wheeled 'Special Delivery' rocket. Brad brought the bike

for two reasons. His Dodge was still in the workshop in bits and the bike made it easy for him to get ahead of the group to photograph the trucks as they passed by. He just hoped it wouldn't rain.

The scheduled start time was 8am but we waited a little while, in case there were some late comers.

From time to time, as our group went on its merry way, Brad's black figure could be seen perched on the side of the road taking photos...

We made a pre-scheduled stop at Camden to pick up John & Richard in the White 'Road Commander' semi-trailer and Rod, Pauline & the two dogs in the Hino. After a few minutes chit-chat and the urgent need to get moving, we turned onto the Hume Motorway headed for Marulan. Ten minutes later, perched behind the armco Brad was taking more pics!!



We had been travelling for almost two hours when we passed by Dennis (Buzz) in his Dodge and Willow & Scott in the bronze cab-over Mack, parked on the side of the road waiting for us. There was nowhere for us to pull up safely so they tagged on behind as we rumbled by to the Marulan checking station. By the time we all arrived at the BP

Marulan truckstop we had ourselves a convoy. Again a lot more chit-chat and come 12.30 I was damn hungry and urged that lunch was waiting for us at Gunning. Slowly the engines were cranked up and we were lunch-bound. At Gunning, when Brad eventually dismounted from his bike, after all the quick dashes between photo opportunities, his beard was wearing that wind blown look.

We had a long lunch at the Gunning pub. The details of time and meeting location plans for the actual "Crawlin' the Hume" were discussed and decided upon. After lunch we packed up and went our separate ways to home.



...and who love you no matter what!!

CRAWLIN' THE HUME...

Story and photos by Dave West

Crawlin' the Hume – 12th-13th April 2014

From Camden to Melbourne and Melbourne to Camden

“It never rains – it pours!!”

Thursday morning 10th – the Diamond T is packed and ready to roll. We head south from Camden then turn onto the Hume Freeway at Wilton-Picton interchange. The sky is very over-cast and threatening.

Travelling south towards Goulburn we overtake a loaded tanker and a (Reefer) van. As they say in America “Boppin along to Slim Dusty, John Williamson and Willy Nelson (On the road again). Then the rain started! Getting heavier further south – fuel and comfort stop at Yass Service Centre. We rocked on towards Albury– front window rubbers leaking – maybe we should have brought a pump up raft.

Lunch at the roadhouse near Wangaratta and head to Melbourne. Heavy rain all the way to Kalkallo where it eased up.

Overnight it was still raining (even the motel room developed a leak). Friday 11th and still it is raining. Visited friends at Campbellfield and the rain became heavier. Saturday run could be washed out (gloom).

Saturday morning 12th “can't believe it”. It is dark but the sky is clear – roll out to the Ford factory – 20 or so other trucks there. As the sun gets out of bed day lights up. Birds are singing and the start of a perfect day weather wise. (Melbourne has been in drought since last November).

Organisers of “Crawlin' the Hume” are on the job. Coffee truck doing a busy trade. Catch up with some familiar faces and meet new ones. Photos and a lot of true lies. Then they start to roll. Trucks of every size, shape and colour. Some restored, some still in their working clothes. WSHTC was very well represented. Visitors from every State in Australia and one I believe from New Zealand.



***BREAKING NEWS!! I just found out there's nothing wrong with me,
it is the world that has issues...***

CRAWLIN' THE HUME... continued

We travel as much of the old Hume that is still intact. Stopping here and there at small towns to patronise local shops or just stop and watch the 30 year or more old trucks reliving the past. Winton raceway opposite the old truck stop is the venue for lunch. 220 trucks were assembled in the marshalling area. Had lunch and then like a kid in a lolly shop went looking and photographing. A very early 1900's Albion truck with solid rubber tyres was the oldest still operating. Winton raceway was in use as well so we had entertainment over the fence from all the would-be boy racers.

A lot of visitors from surrounding towns came to look and enjoy as were the people along the sides of the old Highway and tops of hills, cheering (blow the horn) and taking photos. Back on the road through Glenrowan (stopped to photo Ned K), onto Wangaratta turn off into Chiltern, Barnawatha and into the Murray Valley Highway, left into Wodonga, over the bridge into NSW. Total distance 175 miles (282 kms).

A great run, weather perfect – a piece of history revisited.

On Saturday night the dinner and presentations and raffle were held at the Albury Racecourse. The food was very good, a cold breeze had us all rugged up but a very pleasant night. The raffle and auction raised money for Trans-Help.

Bruce and Dad Gunter had engine problems with the “knocker” but a can of fix-all allowed them to complete the run and return home.

Sunday morning breakfast was provided back at the Race Club for all participants and then a truck show and shine for all the locals. Great weather and catch up on fun on the run and true lies.

On the way home from Albury some of our members deviated into Tarcutta to visit the Truckies Wall of Remembrance. Hopefully in the future the Hume Highway Road Transport Heritage Remembrance Museum and Convention Centre will be open and the HTH and CTH runs can change over at Tarcutta. Lest we forget!

To Rob French and Roger Marchetti and all their helpers thank you for a very successful run.

Well done truckers!

See you in 2015 on the HTH run.

WSHTC Member

Dave West

***Sometimes it's not the song that makes you emotional...
It's the people and things that come to mind when you hear it...***

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 17 May - Putty Road Truck Drivers Memorial. Service - 1pm at Garry E Miller Park, Putty Road, Milbrodale

Sunday 25 May - 8:30am Breakfast Run @ Mulgoa Park, Mulgoa. Bring \$6.00, cup and chair.

Saturday 14 - Sunday 15 June - The Fourth **Sydney Classic and Antique Truck Show** - Obtain your entry from the Penrith Fire Museum website and please write on the top of the form WSHTC or you will not be with the Club Stand.

Sunday 22 June - 10:00am WSHTC Club AGM at Andy Nash's - Metropolitan Towing 2/17 Sunblest Crescent, Mount Druitt. Lunch provided, bring cup and chair

Saturday 12 July - Sunday 13 July - Yesteryear Truck & Machinery Show, Wauchope Showground, Wauchope. Exhibitors set up Friday. Enquiries: General - Alf Denning 0427 572 037; Trucks - Kirby Maxwell 0407 594 149; Swap sites - Phil Constable 0411 690 422. Free entry and camping for exhibitors, powered sites \$20 per night.

Sunday 27 July - 8.30am Breakfast Run @ the top of the Razorback. Bring chair, cup & \$6.00. Please let Brad know for catering.

Saturday 9 August - Sixth Dubbo Truck & Tractor Show. Dubbo Showground, Dubbo. Enquiries: Brian 0418 226 751 or John 0428 143 644. www.goldenoldiestruckclub.com.

Sunday 24 August - 8.30am Breakfast Run @ Riverstone Railway Station dirt car park 9be-side the Bowling Club) Bring chair, cup & \$6.00 Please let Brad know for catering.

Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 September - "Clarendon Classic Rally". 100 years Dodge Brothers, 150 years Deutz and everything British in Australia. From 8am Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Road, Clarendon.

Saturday 8 November - CONVOY FOR KIDS - Goulburn. Meet at Pheasants Nest at 8.00am. A great family day out of fun and fund raising for kids charities.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEES MUST BE PAID BY 30 JUNE. PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY CHEQUE or MONEY ORDER and POSTED TO PO BOX 369, PLUMPTON 2761 OR PAID IN PERSON AT ANY CLUB EVENT PRIOR TO 30 JUNE 2014. MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE \$40.00

BUCKET HATS WITH CLUB LOGO - for sale to members only - \$15 each

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

Mike Dodds, editor