

Western Sydney Historical Truck Club



August 2018



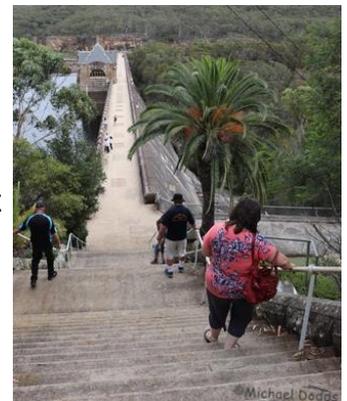
Despite what has been said about her ability to get the weather right, Mother Nature, certainly put on a cracker of a day for us on the lunch run to Cataract Dam. The drive down from Uncle Leo's was picturesque and trouble free. Fifteen people in nine vintage trucks and a couple of cars travelled in a loose convoy led by Andy Nash.

Once at the picnic area we were welcomed by the few who had arrived earlier. Then it was all hands at the ready to help set up the barbecue, generator and fill the urn for a well earned cuppa.



We shared our section of picnic area with a couple of enterprising locals who kept the area clean. One was named "Kooky" and the other was named "Red". The two of them kept us entertained as they worked their magic.

The eating of lunch was a lengthy process because the world's problems had to be discussed and solutions found. Andy did an excellent job cooking extra sausages and onions, just to make sure there was plenty of food available. After such a big lunch a walk to the dam to work off lunch was a must. Someone forgot to tell us that it would take 15 minutes to walk to the dam, 15 minutes to walk around the wall and three times as long to return to the car park. At the end of the day everyone was happy and talking about another lunch run.



	2018-19 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	Brian Hodges	0408 275 754
Registrar	Steve Pardey	0412 646 280
Safety Officers	Ron Ross Dave West	4576 3423 4658 1649 w/answer service
Major Events Coordinators	Bruce Gunter Dave "Chappo" Chapman	0459 991 929 0404 850 037

Brekky Run at the Blacktown City Show



Fifteen of our finest vintage trucks, all washed, polished and looking a million dollars lined up around the track of the showground oval. It was a beautiful Autumn day and perfect for a show. The proud owners and other club members shared breakfast in the peace and quite, and the cool of the morning before the gates opened to the public. It didn't take long for the public to come over and have a stickybeak at all the magnificent trucks. Some trucks took longer to inspect than others. In the line up there was quite a range in age and uniqueness on show... from 1938 to late 1970's and from 'working' trucks, we think we see daily, to a modified 'quarter pounder' tow car truck. There was newcomer in the line up this time, in shape of a cute little red 1938 International tray truck that has been in the restoration workshop for the past

twenty-three years. Despite Murphy's Law playing major havoc throughout all of those 23 years, and arriving in style on it on the back of one of Andy's tilt-tray trucks it took its place alongside the other trucks under it's own power. One young boy from Melbourne who was on school holidays travelled to the Blacktown Show just to see the International. Being permitted to sit in the drivers seat he drove the truck all around the showground (In his dreams) and thought all his Christmases had come at once.

...Strong enough to live the life you've always imagined."

Putty Road Truck Drivers' Memorial and Reunion

For weeks before the Putty Road Truck Drivers' Memorial, the excitement of driving my own truck on this run had me tossing and turning all night, every night, and just when I finally got to sleep one of our fur children climbed over me to tell me it was time to wake up...▶

It would be an early start for me this time around because the little red Inter has a top speed down hill with a tail wind of about 40mph and, the trip to Milbrodale is up hill all the way! The truck hasn't been on a long run yet so this would have been its first trial. But as with all engines recently rebuilt there needs to be a period for "running it in" and for sorting out teething problems. And we have had our fair share of problems along the way...



Anyway... Saturday 18 May 2018 was a bright, cloudless and happy autumn day. Seventeen vintage trucks, all cleaned and shiny, glistened in the sun. They were parked along the perimeter of the Garry E. Miller Park on two sides, in a silent sentinel to the memory of past truck drivers.



The memorial wall was sparkling with its recent paint job and new plantings in the garden. This year there were 11 additional plaques on the wall and many more floral tributes at its base.



As in previous years the Milbrodale Public School was on hand providing food and refreshments. Just to add a little twist to things, Bruce Brown conducted his now famous 50/50. \$406 was collected. \$203 went to the Putty Road Truck Drivers' Memorial and the other \$203 went to the winning ticket holder, Jeff Clissold, a WSHTC member. Jeff then generously donated his half back. Here's the twist... Bruce Brown then auctioned the winning ticket and collected another \$150. The winner whose name is not known donated his winnings back to the Memorial less enough to buy a few beers on the way home. So the final amount was \$608.70, all of which went to the Putty Road truck Drivers' Memorial.



According to Sonny Warby who has been at every Memorial Service since the first one said... "I reckon this is the biggest memorial service we've ever had".



Although it was a sombre event, it was a happy one at the same time with everyone present celebrating Life, as it goes on.

Vale John Ross... It is with great sadness that we remember John Ross who passed away in April 2018. Although he was a WSHTC member since 2013, he was very well known throughout the transport industry as a leader, an inspiration and a good friend to many.

The Eighth Sydney Classic and Antique Truck Show - May 2018

We have been spoiled for perfect days for our events this Autumn, and the weekend for SCAATS was no different. Everyone seemed to be wearing a smile too which was nice.

For many years since the beginning of the WSHTC I only had photos of the restoration progress of little Inter to show. Garry Schroder teased me relentlessly that he doubted the truck actually existed. When I arrived at the Museum of Fire, I was directed to the WSHTC area. I noticed that Garry had seen my arrival. This was the first time he had seen my truck and he watched it intently as the little red apparition moved towards him and parked alongside his Dodge tow truck.



No Garry it's not a ghost after all! He appeared stunned and somewhat in awe by what he saw in front of him....

After giving the truck the once over and then checking it for a second time in case he missed something. "I could make a really good tow hook for the back of it", he commented as I climbed out of the cab. I think he was really taken with the finished result but he might still have been teasing. By Sunday afternoon he told me that he and a few others had worked out how they could fit big block chevy under the bonnet.

I do like to report on things I haven't seen before. Parked down by the fence along the railway line was a neat International Transtar 4200 with Tasmanian registration. It was a mobile home but didn't look like one. It looked more like a Pantech truck that was polished inside and out. As the owner travelled long distances the truck was his home away from home with all the modern comforts. He said he wouldn't swap it for anything less... so bad luck Bob Irwin.



It has been a while since I have had the chance to catch up with Trevor Ellwood and his over-size coffee mug. I kept an ear tuned waiting to hearing screaming sound of his red WHITE truck approaching, but it never arrived. Now working overnight express runs Trevor arrived in his Overnight Express Dodge which he has spent some time and money "bringing it back to original". Instead of restoring the truck the decision was taken to return its original character, charm and colour. A bucket of suds and a high pressure cleaner returned it to its happy red.



...we all have the power to make wishes come true, as long as we keep believing."

The Eighth SCAATS continued...

Each year the club makes an award to the truck that is the most authentic vehicle at the SCAATS Show. The truck does not necessarily need to be restored but it must be an authentic example of what was manufactured. This year the award went to Brad Skeer's Morris Commercial.



The truck is excellent condition due to it being garaged in a shed for most of its life.

The Secretary was busy on Sunday handing out Applications for membership. Approximately six new members have joined our membership. Welcome to all new members.

The secretary also took the remainder of shirts and jackets ordered to the show with the purpose of handing them to their owners. It would have been a smart move to have them in the marquee where members signed the attendance book but it didn't happen so they remained in the box in the back of his truck. Most of the owners were at the show and spoke several times to the secretary but neither remembered to mention the shirts/jackets!!



Attention Members

1. We would like to thank members who responded to pay your membership on time.
 2. in relation to payments that you direct deposited to our account. YOU MUST DO THE FOLLOWING:
 - (a) Use a reference that we can recognise as in your name or your membership number.
 - (b) If you are unable to use your name or membership number, PLEASE CONTACT BRIAN, by text message or phone on 0408 275754 or email him on fjhodges@bigpond.com. Please tell him when you made the deposit, and what it was for. For any questions regarding a payment contact Brian and leave your details, and he will get back to you.
 3. WE STILL HAVE MONEY direct deposited in our account THAT HAS NO REFERENCE. We do not know who put the money in our account, or what it was for! PLEASE CONTACT BRIAN, if you think that you could be one of these members.
 4. You will receive a new membership card each year when you renew your membership. Your membership number WILL ALWAYS REMAIN THE SAME, while ever you are a financial member. Membership numbers mean we can identify you in all future transactions.
We thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter while we all get used to using our membership numbers.
- Brian Hodges, WSHTC Treasurer

"Don't be disappointed about the things you did in life but the things you didn't"



Long Weekend at Gundagai - 2018

written by Jo and Peter Hand.

Gundagai came alive again during the June long weekend thanks to the annual Australian Road Transport Heritage Centre (ARTHC) Reunion Dinner and Sylvia's Gap run, with proceeds going towards the development of a landmark Road Transport Museum. The 2018 theme was 'Express Freight of Yesteryear'.

The weekend started with a Dinner Reunion at the Gundagai RSL Club. The 190 guests enjoyed a night of entertainment including raffles, auction, a book launch, guest speakers, lifetime achievement awards, videos, photographs, and the odd yarn or two with mates from near and far. Western Sydney Historical Truck Club (WSHTC) members got the fundraising night off to a flying start with a 50/50 raffle which raised \$1010.00 with \$505 going to the ARTHC and \$505 going to the lucky winner. The auction was a huge success, partly due to the two very entertaining auctioneers whose showmanship was second to none; wallets were opened with a smile, who could ask for more...

Three former Express Freight drivers, Colin Southwell, Viv Ireland and Ted Scarfe, were invited as guest speakers to provide a colourful account of their experiences driving express freight trucks. Darren Hingston chose the ARTHC event to launch his book "TNT Anything Anywhere Anytime ... Shore We Can"; Darren is a co-author and provided a brief overview of the book.

The inaugural Lifetime Achievement Awards recognised four respected individuals and their contribution to road transport. The recipients were Ian "Harry" Turner, Wal Elliott, Norm Lacey and Rex Sheil. The night ended on a high, with the auctioning of a quilt designed and constructed by Kaye Brown, which raised \$880.00 and another one that will be drawn early next year at the tractor pull. Tickets will be available at various truck shows, just see Bruce Brown.

The following day started with a recovery breakfast at the Gundagai Showgrounds. Over 80 trucks and 30 vintage cars then congregated in the Showground to start the Sylvia's Gap Run. The dense fog added an atmospheric feel and provided a fantastic backdrop for keen photographers.

At the end of the run, it was back to the Showground for morning tea accompanied by more yarns and tale telling. The trucks were displayed in the showground and made an impressive sight. Mick Kennedy was handed the difficult task of judging the line-up, and after much deliberation prizes were awarded to Rob Woolley of Mangrove Mountain, NSW, for Truck of the Show with his restored 1981 Kenworth K123, and Steve Patten of Leeton taking out Best Historic Truck with his 1990 International TranStar 4670.

The WSTHC was well represented and the ARTHC would like to thank all those members willing to risk the cold and wet weather to support their cause.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. The club's postal address is **PO BOX 3140, ROUSE HILL 2155**
2. The Club's email address is wshtctrucks01@gmail.com
3. Payments can be made by EFT directly into the club's bank account -
BSB 032371 Account 396047.

Please include your name and *member ID number as a reference.

Yesteryear Truck & Machinery Show at Wauchope - story by Andy Nash

Ann and I left home about 11.30 am Friday loaded with the Dodge on the UD tilt tray. We stopped for lunch at Beresfield before continuing on to Wauchope and our motel. After checking in to our motel we drove down to the showground just in time to catch up with Michael and Joe Vella who were cooking up dinner. They invited us to share their hospitality. We enjoyed wonderful friendship and plenty of gossip before retiring for the night.

Saturday morning was a hive of activity with about 120 plus trucks registered and lined up in a parade that filled the complete track. Although it was cold overnight, the weather during the day was absolutely great, nice and sunny.

The day was spent catching up with a great lot of people, including many of our members. We visited the various stalls and enjoyed a great day before the evening dinner in the showground hall. The dinner was followed with a very lively auction. I believe they made in excess of \$5500 which was a great effort. The bidder of the night was Mick Kennedy. Thanks to everyone for your support.

On Sunday morning some had packed up and left early. It was a much quieter day than the previous day. Most people left as soon as grand parade was completed. Unfortunately Dennis Brooks who turned up with his 4WD and caravan started to leave only to find his ignition had broken, unable to release steering lock or get ignition. NRMA was called but unable to do anything until Monday. His vehicle was not repaired until after Tuesday... a holiday he won't forget I am sure.

It was pleasing to see that our club was well represented by the many who put the effort in making the trip.



On a recent trip I met a fellow Aussie from WA and we got to talking about country fairs and machinery shows. He was from Muckinbudin. He told me that a couple of years ago the town council wanted to put on a show that exhibited everything the town was known for, from past history, farm produce to the latest machinery. At a meeting of the Show committee everything was organised and planning well underway, except they had no one to open the show. They agreed they needed a celebrity who would draw big crowds. One committeeman said he knew HRH Prince Charles but would need a fair amount of time to make the arrangements.

Time marched on and everything was organised and on time. On opening day Prince Charles arrived nicely dressed and wearing a strange fur hat with a tail. He delivered a fine speech and opened the show. He walked around in the hot sun looking at all the exhibits and wearing the fur hat. At the end of the day the committee had a special cocktail party in honour of Prince Charles to thank him for opening the show. One of the committee asked about the fur hat. Prince Charles said, "oh that was Mummy's idea. When I told her I was coming here, she said "Muckinbudin, where the fox 'hat?'"

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 8 September - 10 am - 3pm. Hurlstone Agricultural High School (Macarthur Region) Country Fair. For Information contact Johanna Leglise 9829 9222 (school) or mobile 0412 801 983

Saturday 8 September - "Wollondilly Anglican College Country Fair" at the Wollondilly Anglican College grounds, 3000 Remembrance Drive, Bargo. Setup at 9.30am. Gates open to the public from 10.00am - 3.00pm. For Further info Phone Deirdre 0417 249 877

UPCOMING EVENTS continued**Saturday 15 Sunday 16 September - The Clarendon Classic and The Kenworth Klassic.**

Set up from 8.00am Friday. Registrations forms and payments need to be in by Friday 7/9/18.
For more info - www.sydneymachineryclub.com.au

Sunday 23 September - Cleary Bros "Drought Relief Truck Show" - 39 Five Islands Rd, Port Kembla. Set up on Saturday from sunrise to sunset and on Sunday from sunrise til 8.30am. 24 hour Security under lights on site. Food caterers and coffee van will be onsite. There will be activities for the kids. All proceeds collected will be donated to drought Relief. For truck entrant information contact Roger Fife 0436 658 113

Saturday 29 - Sunday 30 September - "Pacin' The Pacific" - Starting at Westrac Facility, 1 Westrac Drive, Tomago, travelling sections of old Pacific Highway and ending at Wauchope Showground. For information contact Kirby Maxwell 0407 594 149 or Syd Ramsay 0427 594 743

Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 October - 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 20 - Sunday 21 October - Urana Vintage Machinery Club Inc. Show. Victoria Park, Urana. Entry Fee \$5.00. Contact Kevin Elphick 0427 253 144 or Brad Elphick 0417 465 634

Sunday 28 October - *Save this date* Maitland Showground 10.00am - 3.00pm

Saturday 10 November - CONVOY FOR KIDS GOULBURN. Meet at Pheasants Nest Servo at 7.00am (like last year) \$10.00 entry per truck. A great family day out and fundraising for local Goulburn kids with cancer and severe disabilities.

Sunday 18 November - 1.00pm Club Christmas Party at Oakdale Worker's Club, Burratorang Road, Oakdale. Roast Meal and dessert @ \$10.00 per head for members and \$20.00 for non members. Booking and payment is required to secured your meal voucher, and must be paid a minimum of two weeks before the event.

For members interested in a run on the day prior to the party, starting at 8.00am from Uncle Leo's to Bargo, The Razorback and on to Oakdale...register your interest with Andy 0418 277 271 or Darrell 0412 050 224.

Sunday 25 November - The Annual Hilton Sibthorpe memorial Truck Show at the Vineyard Hotel formerly (The Tourmaline Hotel) Windsor Road, Vineyard.

Sunday 6 January 2018 - Breakfast Run at 8.30am to Warragamba Centre. Bring \$6.00, cup and chair. Please contact Bruce 0428 545 358 or Andy 0418 277 271 for catering purposes.

Saturday 26 January - Australia Day 2019

- at Camden - contact Dave West (02) 4658 1649

- at The Pioneer Village, Wilberforce - Contact Ron Ross (02) 45763423

Saturday 19 February - **The Highlands Steam and Vintage Fair at Oberon** Rugby Leagues Club, Lowes Road, Oberon. Free entry to exhibitors. Event set up, the tractor trek, and car and truck road runs (entrants only), on Friday. Street parade Saturday at 10.00am.

*All contributions for publishing in the next Newsletter can be mailed to
PO Box 3140, Rouse Hill 2155, or emailed to wshtctrucks01@gmail.com*