

# The CRANKHANDLE

**MARCH  
2019**

Newsletter of the Southern Peninsula Classic and Historic Car Club Inc. A00011676Y

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The Crankhandle is sponsored by the Bendigo Bank

Postal Address: S.P.C. & H.C.C. Inc., P.O. BOX 12, DROMANA, VIC., 3936

Website: [www.crankhandle.com.au](http://www.crankhandle.com.au) Email: [admin@crankhandle.com.au](mailto:admin@crankhandle.com.au)

*The aim of the Club is to cater for people who have an interest in restoring, touring and displaying all types of Veteran, Vintage and Classic cars, motorcycles, trucks and stationary engines, etc. or any piece of machinery of historical interest.*

*The views and/or opinions expressed in CRANKHANDLE are not necessarily those held by the Committee of the SPC&HCC.*



**Ron Townley with his historically important BWA Special affectionately known around race tracks as the "Bloody Work of Art"**

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**The deadline for articles and advertisements in the next edition of The Crankhandle is 15<sup>th</sup> of the Month. Items received after then may be held over till the next edition.**

**Please email copy or information to:**

**[crankeyeditor@gmail.com](mailto:crankeyeditor@gmail.com)**

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### CLUB MEETINGS

General meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Dromana Community Hall, cnr of Hodgkinson St and Verdon St, Dromana at 7.30 pm. Melway Ref 159 G7

**From Oct 1st 2016 the joining fee is \$35. The Membership fee is \$55 pa or \$40 pa with an email only magazine**

#### COMMITTEE OFFICERS

*President:*

**Geoff Bartlett** 0419 547 823

*Vice President:*

**Brian Evans** 0409 639 118

*Secretary:*

**Brian Niblock** 0476 264 726

*Treasurer:*

**Paul Lucas** 0420 927 073

*Membership Officer:*

**Anne Kruger** 0417 830 755

*Club Permit Officer:*

**David Doubtfire** 0409 603 749

*Editor:*

**Keith Morrison** 0411 127 765

*Events manager:*

**John Becker** 0411 202 911

*Safety Check Officer:*

**Liam Fenney** 5986 5454

*Club Photographer*

**Anne Kruger** 0417 830 755

*Club Regalia:*

**Rob Lloyd** 0407 833 878

*AOMC Representative*

**Ray Beagley** 0414 598 614

*Federation Representatives*

**Allan Tyler** 0409406690

**Christine Tyler** 0424096393

*Web Master:*

**David Doubtfire** 0409 603 749

#### OTHER MEMBERS

**Julie Jones** 0418 144 554

**Colin Jordan** 0417 527 812

**Warwick Spinaze** 0407 016 719

#### LIFE MEMBERS

**Geoff Anderson, Ray Beagley, Greg Cripps, Ray Gardini, Tony Howard, Noel Meates, Lawrie Turner, Don Robinson, John Watson, Max Caddy, Bill Glover, Charlie Cassar Steve Lloyd \*\* Eric Evans \*\* Peter Bradbury \*\***

**\*\* Deceased**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS** are held at "The Library"  
Mornington Gardens, 98 Bungower Rd, Mornington.  
2nd Tuesday each month at 1:15pm  
Tel 0420 927 073 (Paul Lucas) .

### PRESIDENTIAL JOTTINGS



Character Building "but only God can make a tree".

When I was a kid in grade 6, the teacher [a bit of a grumpy old man] had us divided into 4 coloured teams. I was blue. We were awarded points for merit, or demerit in the case of indiscretions. Goodness knows, I was probably responsible for some of those demerits.

Very near the end of the year, Blue was trailing the leader by some 35 points.

We were taught the poem "Trees", and the teacher informed us that there was a song. Any kid who would front up the next day and sing it would be awarded 100 points. WOW!

My Mum was a soprano who had competed on some radio contest [the P and A parade??] and I asked her, and of course she knew it, and taught me.

The next morning was like being President of a car club – nervous was not in it – a boy singing solo to the class, you've got to be joking.

The teacher asked the question, and there was only one respondent – me. So I did it.

After congratulating me, the teacher awarded blue team 10 points. I reckoned it was up to someone else in blue to point out to him that the promise was 100 points, but alas everyone was silent, and our team remained in a trailing position.

Did this make me a better person? I doubt it, but I probably assumed some of the teacher's persona – the grumpy old man.

Seriously though, I am enjoying the car club role, and the fact that the membership has entrusted me with the job. Here's to more happy motoring with the assistance of a wonderful Committee, and a wonderful membership.

Geoff Bartlett.

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## COMING EVENTS



### MARCH

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	All Holden Day – Geelong
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting – Guest speaker Ron Townley
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	Red Hill Show Co-ordinator John Martin 0468 030 085
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	BBQ Breakfast at Sea Winds Purves Road Arthurs Seat 8:30am onwards BYO everything. Convenor John Becker 0411 202 911
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Visit to Chief Son Distillery 25/50 Guelph Street, Somerville 2pm Very interesting whisky distillery – convenor Geoff Bartlett 0419 547 823
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Kalorama Rally</i>
Thur 31 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Aussie Motor Show Yarra Glen race course</i>

### APRIL

Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	General Meeting
Thur 4 <sup>th</sup>	BREAKFAST 8.30am FLINDERS VILLAGE CAFÉ 49 Cook Street Flinders Co-ordinator John Becker 0411 202 911 <a href="mailto:johnbecker@westnet.com.au">johnbecker@westnet.com.au</a>
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	GREAT MACEDON GRAND TOUR check internet for booking
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 6TH----- 22ND EASTER GOOD FRIDAY 19TH HOLIDAY EASTER MONDAY 22ND
Thur 25 <sup>th</sup>	ANZAC DAY
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch to be confirmed



## *Caught in the Headlights*

### *The Octogenarians*

A pleasant morning with Ron Townley

On a recent Tuesday morning the Octos called on Club member Ron Townley at his Mount Martha home, We felt it fitting considering Ron and his wife Lorraine have only recently joined the Club and Ron is our March guest speaker.

We found Ron in his lower floor 6-7 car garage, converted from the former owner's wife's meeting and storage room for her Amway business. He has tailored the garage to meet his requirements and the result is very pleasing and practical, being equipped with comfortable chairs and coffee/tea amenities suited to older gentlemen. The walls are decked out with photos of Ron's former racing cars plus some notable machines that he had previously owned and used in historic racing, while on the tiled floor, nicely spaced out, is the collection of cars he currently owns.

Ron was born into a dairy farming family at Bayles and grew up helping his father from the time he could only stand on the seat of the truck and steer whilst his father fed out. He left the farm around the 19 years of age and worked at various jobs including the timber industry, until he bought his first truck, a 3 ton Austin, and started picking up and delivering farm produce around the district. The business grew and prospered, the number of trucks and drivers increased, ending up with a fleet of trucks servicing corporate customers including a large contract with Lysaghts at Hastings. Today, one of Ron's sons is running the day to day business and has now expanded the fleet to include reliable contract owner/drivers delivering up and down the eastern sea-board with depots in Sydney and Brisbane while head operations still remain in Koo Wee Rup with a transport depot in Sunshine. Ron married in 1960 and has three sons from his first marriage. Today he is married to Lorraine whom many of us had the pleasure of meeting for the first time at our recent Show'n Shine when they arrived in the glorious Twin Cam..

Ron has always had a passion for speed and in his younger days between 1958 and 1960, he indulged in dirt track speedway driving at famous name places of the day, like Tracy's Dirt Track Speedway, Bannock Park and Baxter. You can see the eyes still gleam as he talks of those days when your driving skills had to be spot on

to survive your fellow racers, determined to take you out! The man is a born natural racer where growing up on a farm meant you were around machinery from the day you could walk and driving around paddocks soon after!

We sat with Ron in his garage surrounded by highly desirable cars all with an interesting story to tell. Ron is probably best known for two of his cars, the mighty Lago Talbot (or Talbot Lago) one of the fourteen made of which two came to Australia, one into the hands of Doug Whiteford, winner of two Australian Grand Prix in his car. The other came to rest in the hands of Ron, who competed with great success in historic racing around most of the tracks in Australia. Ron's Talbot was registered as the second car to come out of the factory in Suresnes, France and returned later to be rebuilt and have all the latest gear fitted and is probably the last car to come out of the premises. The entire production run was only 14 cars and they were known as the T25 C model. Ron bought the Lago in 2006 from Reg Hunt, the well-known and highly successful driver in the 1950s-60s period and competed with it until 2016 when he sold it to Vern Schuppan another highly successful driver. Maybe not so strange then to see these former Grand Prix machines being bought and raced in historical events by former distinguished racing drivers. Once it is in your blood it probably there for life or at least while you can still fit into the cockpit!

The other well-known car in the stable, famous in historic racing, is the fully restored BWA, an Australian built special, affectionately known in racing circles as the Bloody Work of Art, beautifully presented with the three owners' names at cockpit level reading 1938 Gib Barrett, 1955 Ron Edgerton and 1989 Ron Townley. A car with a remarkable history, originally powered by a modified Gough engine but now fitted with a highly tuned Lea Francis motor with sliding front suspension, a Nash diff, and swing axles in the rear and a chassis made from folded sheet metal. This car racing in the 1500cc class is still quite a dramatic and purposeful looking machine and still capable of putting up very respectable times down the Phillip Island straight. The car, from its conception in the late 1930s and developed as a single-seater racing car during the war period by



the Barrett brothers, has had considerable success over its very long lifetime.

Replacing the Lago is a beautiful MG Twin Cam that Ron acquired as part settlement from Vern Schuppan in the sale of the Lago to him. This model is becoming very rare and highly collectable. It is fully restored, painted in a lovely shade of blue and according to Ron, "it's a great drive." The twin cam MG is known for its engine problems but Ron has got the better of all that and is now proudly using it for club events.



Sitting quietly in the garage is a fully restored 1927 Chevrolet Truck with the company initials scrolled on a head-board at the top of the windscreen, an imposing vehicle, the timber work in this vehicle is superb. Believe it or not it took 7 years to complete the restoration.

A car that attracts immediate attention is a Kurtis Kraft midget racer, probably America's most successful builder and designer of midget speedway cars. A rare sight in Australia, this car was originally imported from USA in the late 80's. Ron acquired the car after it had been badly damaged in its last race and he was able to



## **IMPORTANT NOTICES**

### **CLUB PERMIT SCHEME MANAGEMENT INFO**

David Doubtfire is the Club Permit Officer and Brian Evans is deputy officer for emergency only.

### **DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY**

It is the responsibility of the driver of a club red plated vehicle being driven to ensure the vehicle is in a current roadworthy condition.

### **CLUB PERMIT HOLDER'S RESPONSIBILITY**

It is the club permit holder's responsibility to remain a financial member of the club and contact the club permit officer after disposal of a red plate vehicle

### **CPS REMINDER**

**The Committee wishes to remind the following members of permits becoming due in the next months:**

#### **MARCH**

R BRADFORD, C JORDAN, G MEANEY, D TURNER

#### **APRIL**

W ALLEN, I AUSTIN, D DOUBTFIRE, C CASSAR, B CROCKER, G DUNKERLY, P GEERMANS, C HIGGINS, P HILL, B JONES, P NOTT, G OTTAWAY, A TURNER, J KLEIN

#### **NOTE: Permit Renewal by Mail**

If sending renewal notices by mail please send them with a self addressed envelope, **ONLY** to the club mailbox:

**PO BOX 12  
DROMANA VIC. 3936**

***We wish all of our members and their families who have not been enjoying the best of health lately, a speedy recovery and return to good health. Members are not named for privacy reasons and also we do not want to cause offence by failing to mention someone by name.***

Time for us to stop writing - there is a great night of reminiscing to come when Ron chats to us all at the March meeting so we will leave it to the maestro with our thanks to him for a lovely informative morning amongst his beautiful stable of cars.

Hi my name is Peter Warren, member 222.  
For the past 10 years I have run an event called Rosebud Rock n Rods Festival in April each year.  
Due to poor weather for the past 2 years, this year will be held on Sunday 24th of March at Eastbourne Primary School.  
The event includes a Hot Rod and Classic Car Display, many interesting trade stalls and displays and of course live Rock n Roll music in the Stadium all Day. Food & Coffee on site, a very good value raffle in the Stadium, proceeds from the event donated to Rosebud Hospital.  
Display car drivers and under 12s free entry all others only \$10 for a great day of entertainment.  
If groups/ clubs can arrive and enter together, park together and display banners etc.  
Saturday night dance March 23 at Eastbourne Primary School Stadium, hosted by Rosebud Rockers, 2 great bands plus DJ, great night assured \$20 to book Ros 0419 331 400



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## Past Event Club Show and Shine.—Tuesday February 5<sup>th</sup> 2019

What an outstanding day for the club's Show and Shine. The weather was great as long as no one was swept away by the winds. However, when the cars wound their way onto the land that abuts the club rooms the committee knew it was to be a captivating display for club members and public alike. Space was at a premium as the cars were directed to various parts of the grounds and what an appealing display with many positive comments coming from the dozens of people strolling through and admiring the car display. The usual tables and chairs, picnic baskets and flasks, knitting and crocheting appeared. Such events would not be the same without Christine Lucas, and Leonie Evans and their needles clicking away. Upon entering cars stopped to be registered and a number placed on the car lights. This was for the judging of various sections such as Early and Late Classics and for the Veteran/Vintage cars. A Perpetual Trophy showed the most desired car as decided by votes cast by the members. A fantastic barbecue with a long line waiting patiently for the sausages, skewered chicken, vegetable patties (a favourite) bacon with a delicious salad, bread and sauces. A veritable feast for those who also came back for seconds!

A special thank you to Meggin Morrison who stepped into the breach helping with serving and sorting the food into various sections so that the cooks concentrated on the cooking. Thanks to the cooks, Warwick Spinaze, Paul Lucas, and Keith Morrison for a job well done. The day was drawing to a close as the grounds were cleared and cars returned to their garages.

Congratulations to Julie Ellis Jones for winning the Early Classic and Perpetual Trophies with her 1949 MGY Saloon, Rob Lloyd for the Late Classic with his 1069 MGB Roadster, and Paul Donnelly for the Veteran/Vintage with his 1925 Studebaker Tourer.

Words & Photos : Anne Kruger









## Past Event—Great Australian Rally to Cruden Farm

The EastLink Great Australian Rally was a resounding success for our club, with a great display of cars. I personally had quite a few very favourable comments from people from other clubs in reference to the quality of our display. Camaraderie on the day being outstanding and the gazebo was a great meeting place. A big thank you to those who participated and also on the presentation of your beautiful vehicles.

Sincere thanks to Paul Goethel, who had his sensational 1908 Swift on display, as he was also helping out with the Austin 7 Club – a very busy day for Paul. And to those people who assisted with setting up etc making the day enjoyable for the rest of our club members, your efforts were very much appreciated.

It has been announced that the EastLink Great Australian Rally had raised \$58,000.00 for Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation for Cancer Research.

John Becker – Events Co-ordinator

### EastLink Great Australian Rally Winners

<b>Veteran:</b>	Benz Patent Motor Wagon	- Jim French
<b>Vintage:</b>	Elite 1923 12/40	- Graeme Simpson
<b>Early Classic:</b>	Chevrolet Phantom 1932	- Wayne Robertson
<b>Late Classic:</b>	Fiat 850 Sport Coupe 1969	- Tony and Shirley Di Gennaro
<b>Late American</b>		
<b>Classic:</b>	Ford Victoria 1956	- Peter Hibbert
<b>Late British Classic:</b>	Morris Mini 850 1961	- Leigh Rawlings
<b>Commercial:</b>	Bedford K Model 1948	- Warren Dodd
<b>Motor Cycle:</b>	V-Twin Zenith 1929	- Alan Greenway
<b>Club Display</b>	CHAGA – Classic Historical Automobile Club	
<b>Best Outright Winner</b>	Ford Victoria 1956	- Peter Hibbert

### We have another winner in our midst—Peter Hibbert



### CLUB MERCHANDISE

For Sale to Members—More new lines coming soon

New Vest	\$45.00
New Rugby Top	\$40.00
Replacement Name Tags	\$10.00
Cloth Badges	\$ 3.50
Metal Car Badge	\$30.00
Polo Shirts	\$30.00
Cap	\$15.00
All these items may be purchased from	
Rob Lloyd – Tel.: 0407 833 878	







## Request for Car Display

Hi guys,

The team in Tyabb antique vintage shed are having a show and display day on labour day weekend 10 march starting at 10 am.

On show will be clothing, food, and cars, motor bikes plus lots more.

Francis has asked me if anybody would be interested in displaying any cars, motor pre 1960s.

I remember you guys coming down for an open day at our shop and recalling the large range of cars your members where driving.

The team at Tyabb antique vintage shed has never organized anything like this before so any input would be grateful.

If you can help please contact Joe our Francis on [jjvavutt@yahoo.com](mailto:jjvavutt@yahoo.com) phone 0421012018

Kind regards

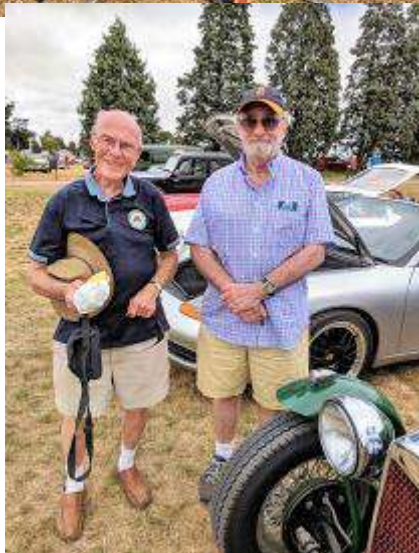
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## Some Other SPC&HCC Winners

Hi, Trevor Merton won car of the month at peninsular link south bound car show on a recent Saturday night. This is a fund raiser for Baxter CFA and attended by up to 200 cars and run by the Peninsular Chrome Bumper Car Club. Trevor loves his "T" model and I must say it is a sensational car for 2 reasons. Not only does it look great but Trevor uses the car regularly and it great to see pieces of history like this still serving a purpose and being able to travel where ever and when ever Trevor chooses. It is great to see some one who enjoys his cars in such a manner and Trevor thoroughly deserves this award

Regards Ray Hudson



I took my TD2000 car to the Lang Lang Show & Shine car show last week.

600 cars were on display and the show had a great car boot sale plus an interesting competition of lawn mower racing, not your normal lawn mower, these were very much hotted up.

There was also a dual cab Holden car with a full on jet aircraft engine sticking out the back. When they started up the jet engine and ignited the afterburn the flame and noise it produced was pretty impressive. I was totally surprised when my name was read out as the judged show winner with my TD2000 Roadster. The prize was a trophy and a colour printer and a cash voucher.

I was entered as a member from the SPCHCC and I was wearing our club shirt, so very proud to win a car show while promoting our club.

Terry Pemberton

## Past Event—AUSTRALIA DAY Lunch and Car Show Rye Pier

We had approx 25 cars on display at Rye Pier which was a good example of club cars and we were blessed with another beautiful day. Great to see John and Shirley Steele's Ford T Torpedo (with a very interesting history). A big thank you to all who presented their cars on the day. After seeing such a large group set up under the trees at the pier, maybe we should give some consideration to having the picnic at the pier rather than have two different venues on the one day and I shall seek to have more organized parking for next year.

John Becker – Events Co-ordinator





## ADIOS a MG-GOES

Spare a thought for Bill Glover.

Along time MG owner, past Committee man and a life membership awarded for his dedication to our car club.

For new members information, Bill is the guy who for years has prepared your supper, tea and coffee. Bill is the man who has washed your cups whilst you enjoy your conversations. Bill is the man who attends Shannons' Auctions and prepares a comprehensive reports on a selection of interesting cars. It is Bill, who along with long time friends, Ray Gardini and Mick Daddo form the Octogenarians producing the 'Caught in the Head Lights' for the Crankhandle.

But beyond all these accolades, it is Bill and lovely wife Barbara, whose motoring interest over the past 51 year or so, has been centred around their ownership of a Heritage Green MGB-GT. Like all good things, they do come to an end. Bill has decided to pass the MG onto to his Son living in Darwin. To this end Michael Hurd and Bill delivered the car to a carrier late January for transport up North.

This MG has been in the family for over 51 years, to my knowledge. A genuine one-owner vehicle. Purchased new in England whilst Bill and family lived in the UK. Barbara drove their three boys to school in the 'G' and used the car for all their domestic needs. When they decided to return to Australia, not being able to part with their beloved MG, the car was moved to Holland for a short time and subsequently shipped to Melbourne.

I write this article without Bill's knowledge, therefore my information may not be completely accurate. From my observation, the car is very original right down to the colour and the leather seats.

To own a car continually for over 50 years, one must have mixed feelings when the time comes to say farewell. I myself move my cars along usually because I am tired of them or there is another vehicle on the horizon that I fancy. Bill and Barb must have had moments when they thought it should go. I remember for a time, Bill fancied the Citroen Light 15 cars which were at the time, valued at a similar price to the MGB GT, but they simply could not part with the MG.

So it is a good thing that the car has now gone to his enthusiast Son in Darwin who owns an early Morris Minor that Bill drove up to Darwin some years back. Sadly, Barbara is suffering memory loss now, and can't enjoy the activities they once shared together.

So spare a thought for the man and beast who will now go their separate ways. This MG maybe just a piece of British metal, however it has been a part of the ups and downs of a growing family. The MG car, along with the Bill and Barbara combination, will always be remembered as a distinctive partnership.

Max Caddy



## For Sale (overflow)

1938 Oldsmobile Classic Car

\$16,500

I have owned her for 35 years totally rebuilt motor unleaded fuel done approx 500 kilometres gear box clutch restored all doors cut rust out and welded new steel all doors floor rust proof treated as were running boards fuel tank restored, new Brakes wheel cylinders etc.

The motor gear box and clutch cost thousands alone.

Could drive to Darwin now no problems, starts first time every time.

Upholstery seats all as new needs head lining moths got to it. Just can't get time to use her.

Done mostly weddings in my time. this is a great machine looking for a new owner to use and enjoy.

Un registered, .stored in Pearcedale

Contact Shane Gillard : 0410541920



# BUY, SWAP OR SELL

Members may submit notices of items they wish to *BUY, SWAP or SELL* at no charge (2 issues only).

Non Members (not commercial) shall be charged \$10.00 for seven lines, max. two issues only. Club Permit eligible vehicles only.

Commercial advertising enquiries should be addressed to: The Treasurer, S.P.C. & H.C.C., PO Box 12, Dromana, Vic., 3936. *Government regulations require that the registration, engine or chassis number of the vehicle MUST be included in all "FOR SALE" advertisements.*

**NOTIFY THE EDITOR ONCE YOUR ARTICLE HAS BEEN SOLD OR THE ADVERT. IS NO LONGER REQUIRED.**

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With its sleek styling, gorgeous green & white interior, clear lenses & gauges, mirror finish paint, beautiful chrome, power steering, smooth changing transmission, and pristine power convertible top.

This beautifully presented car is the last offered from a 4 car collection from Rosebud Victoria, with its immaculately detailed engine bay & flat head V8 engine.

It has been in Australia for 3 years from Amarillo Texas and lovingly maintained.

There is original paperwork from the dealer back in 1952 along with original parts & workshop manuals and dealer sales brochure.

\$75,000 Inc RWC

For those who maybe interested I can forward a short video and pic's  
[mickeyg56@hotmail.com](mailto:mickeyg56@hotmail.com)



## CARS FOR SALE – Norm McBride

Max Caddy recently received a call from Norm McBride. Norm is a very long standing member of our Club. Both he and his wife Gwen, have been unwell and the family have decided to move them out of their home. Gwen is in a nursing home and Norm is situated at his daughter's home. Their home is to be let or sold, however, there are three vehicles in the garage that have to go.

### **1988 Daimler Vanden Plas**

Charcoal Grey, leather, picnic tables, etc. Nice Car. I reckon eight hours or so and it will be a beautiful car.

### **1984 Mercedes 380 SE Auto V8 180kms**

Green. Norm states 'it is like new!'

### **58 MK9 Jaguar**

One owner! Two tone grey. Needs some restoration. Chrome done, ball joints, steering box etc. all done. Leather seats need doing, so too the roof lining. Needs battery. Still a project really.

The family is open to reasonable offers. Daughter, Michelle is contactable after 7pm on 0417 577 942


**Commercial Advertising Rates:** 1/4 page.- \$250, 1/3 page.- \$300, 1/2 page.- \$450, full page.- \$650



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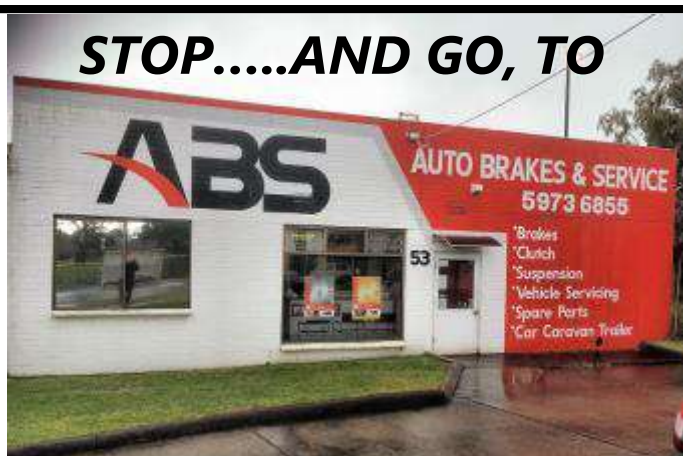
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