

# BCHAC

A0049447S



**Newsletter Volume 15 Number 4  
April - May 2025**

# Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club

Was established in 2005 and offers members friendship, restoration advice. Our mid-week, weekend and annual events offer something of interest for all the family. Meetings 1st Tuesday of every month except January.

BCHAC Inc, PO Box 687, Wonthaggi, 3995

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**Visitors are always welcome.**

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## **CLUB PERMIT SCHEME**

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Tony Easton—0418 173 255

When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.

Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now.

## **Front Cover**

Peter Mattea's 1971 Triumph Spitfire at the Wonthaggi desalination plant.

## **DISCLAIMER**

The Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club Inc., its Officers and Committee cannot be held liable for any errors and/or omissions in articles, reports, notices, advertisements, comment and advice of events that are published in this Newsletter in good faith.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This month's president's report will be very short. I have been out of action because of an accident in my workshop. In the next couple of weeks I am hoping for some good news.

I would sincerely like to thank Brian and Yvonne for the work they have done in my absence.

Thanks also to Pat for chairing the meetings.

Just a reminder about our club display on Easter Saturday at Apex Park. Hoping all members take advantage of this display to show their cars.

Regards Keith Tonkin (President)

## From the Editor (Ex)

I would like to thank all those that have contributed to the newsletter over the last few years. Special thanks to Yvonne who picked up the load while I was unavailable.

Please continue, and consider contributing if you haven't before. This is much

appreciated and makes the task a lot easier.

Word documents are good. Photos are best in JPEG form and not embedded in a word document. Ideally size under one megabyte are preferred. Sending by email to the club is best.

Thanks again

Ray Watson

1922

# Australian Six

*Big Improvements New Features  
Great Value at Lower Prices*

THE 1922 Series Australian Six Cars contain many new features of particular interest, adding considerably to the already splendid value, and placing this particular car in the lead of all others. Purchasers of Australian Six Cars will now have the benefit of improvements costing at least £50, and may buy at price showing an actual saving to them of £15.0 per car.

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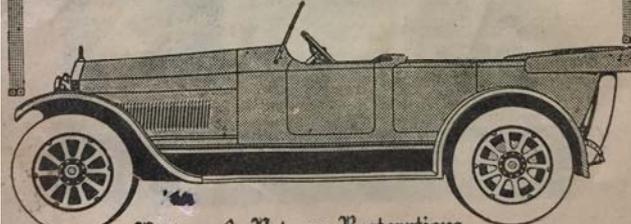
And the price for Australian Six Car to-day is **£680** for the Standard Model.

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Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club Inc. A0049447S

## **General Meeting at Wonthaggi Workmen's Club 4th March 2025**

Meeting opened at 7:33 PM

Pat acknowledged the custodians of our land.

### **Attendance and apologies**

As recorded

### **New Member**

Mark Richardson introduced himself and was warmly welcomed into our club.

### **Minutes of the previous meeting**

read and **moved** by Brian Asbury 2nd Richard Huntriss Carried

### **Business arising from the previous minutes**

Brian on behalf of Keith encouraged members outside the committee to assist Keith with organising and holding the Show N Shine event by forming a sub committee. Brian requested interested members to come forward after the meeting.

Brian advised the only day available to hold the Show N Shine was the 16th November due to cricket season.

Brian advised AOMC had at its last meeting voted in favour of creating a two tier membership system. The first level being Members and the 2nd level being MembershipPlus. Brian went on to say the information about Membership Plus / insurance scheme will be explained at a seminar conducted on the 10th May by the AOMC. All clubs are encouraged to have executive club members attend. Brian advised Yvonne Thompson, Ian Stevenson, Colin Graham and himself have formed a sub committee to collectively assess all the information provided at the seminar to advise committee and the club membership on a course of action for our club.

### **Correspondence**

10/2/25	AOMC - Special meeting - Membership Plus
14/2/25	BCHAC - Clarification Membership Plus fee
18/2/25	Shirley Egan - Acquittal
19/2/25	Shirley Egan - Acquittal finalised
19/2/25	Shirley Egan - Share the shed
19/2/25	AOMC Bulletin Special General Meeting Update
28/2/25	Production Corp - PA systems
28/2/25	3GG Radio Advertising
28//2/25	Westernport Water - Guest speaker
<b>Moved</b>	Brian Asbury 2nd Red Rodgers Carried

### **Treasures Report.**

Dianne Adams presented and **moved** the financial report **2nd** Peter Mattea  
**Note** copy of the report maybe viewed by arrangement with the Brian

Carried.

### **Reports**

#### **Events**

Judy reported on past and up coming events noting both the Valentines Day and Wooden Boat events at Inverloch were poorly attended. Upcoming events include;

Cowes Car Show 7th March

Korumburra Working Horse Show 15th March

Harewood Heritage House Day 6th April

Peter Mattea advised a bike run will be organised for the last Sunday of the month. Colin Carter gave a brief report on the last bike run.

**Newsletter** Peter advised he is not long back from travelling and not organised for the next Newsletter. Peter advised he will contact Ray Watson for guidance on publishing, no date set.

#### **Membership.**

Yvonne advised the four new memberships are not in attendance and acknowledged Mark Richardson as the new member tonight.

#### **General Business**

Brian explained Shirley Egan from Bass Coast Shire had contacted him regarding sharing the Shed with another organisation - Brian advised the shed is full of our belongings with little room for another organisation. Brian and Keith to arrange a meeting with Shirley to discuss.

Jewel Huntriss announced the Gippsland Vehicle Collection Motor Museum in Maffra asbestos roof was leaking needing \$1,000,000 to replace it and suggested our club make a donation to the museum. Pat advised it will be discussed at the next committee meeting. Thelma suggested profits from the show and shine event could be donated to the museum.

Eddy Jackson explained the Rocker Cover skate board competition as a kids activity at the show and shine event.

**Next Meeting** 1/4/25

**Meeting Closed** 8:05 PM

## Motor racer extraordinaire.

John Surtees is unique in motorsport in that he is the only person to have won a MotoGP championship on two wheels and F1 championship on four.

He was born into cycle racing family with his father a bike dealer who was a successful side car grass track racer. Surtees won his first event as a passenger in his father's side car only to be disqualified because he was only 14 years old.

At the age of 22 he won his first 500 cc world championship title with MV Augusta.

He won a total of seven world championships with them in the 350 and 500 cc classes.

He also won the senior Isle of Man TT event three years in a row.

His works team wanted to restrict the number of races he entered and it is reported. He said my contract doesn't say anything about cars.

He test drove an F1 car and was offered a contract although he had not seen a car race at all. At this stage he had to drive smaller cars to obtain his competitors license.

In 1964, he won the F1 world championship with Ferrari.

In late years, he started his own team as a constructor in the likes of Rabe and McLaren.



## \_Wasted spark ignition.

This has been mentioned briefly before in an article about citrons as the 2CV is the first documented car to use this system bikes probably used it before this. What is it?

In a conventional motor, a spark is sent to a cylinder just before the top of a compression stroke.

In a wasted spark system, a spark is sent also to a cylinder just before the top of its exhaust stroke.

This does nothing as is hence called "wasted spark".

Why do this? It can sometimes make the ignition system simpler..

In a conventional push rod system, the camshaft rotates at half crankshaft speed making it ideal to drive a distributor to deliver sparks as required. In other cam shaft systems different arrangements are needed.. for example when BMC introduced the twin overhead cam B series motor as found in some MGA's, they used what they called a half speed shaft. This was basically 1 cam shaft without lobes. Because of the complicated chain drive it actually rotated in the opposite direction hence the distributor was not interchangeable.

Some modern cars use wasted spark ignition sometimes in conjunction with multiple coils and electronic ignition. Crank shaft sensors help determine timing..

4/single cylinder engines.

2/cylinder engines are becoming less popular for environmental reasons.

You are now more likely than before to find a four stroke engine in your lawnmower.

Briggs and Stratton motors are a good example. These have a standard camshaft and push rods all internal in the crankcase..

A magneto is then driven from the crankshaft with a spark produced every revolution on both the compression

and exhaust stroke. With

the plugs firing twice as

often their life is not

shortened much be-

cause the energy

needed for a spark to

jump in hot exhaust

gases is much less than

in a compressed air fuel

mixture. You may have

been running a wasted

spark ignition system

without realising it..



# CALENDAR

April 2025

1st April	General Meeting 7.30pm Wonthaggi Workmen's Club Dinner prior to the Meeting	
6th April	Autopro Monthly Get Together in car park in front of the Shop 4 Murray Street Wonthaggi 8.30am to 10am All welcome	FYI
6th April	Harewood House Heritage Day Harewood House, South Gippsland Highway (just before the Tooradin Airport) Tooradin 10am—3pm Entry \$10 Adults, \$8 Seniors Free in Classic cars. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TELL THOSE ON THE GATE THAT YOU ARE FROM BCHAC (We have been allocated a specific parking space) Food available or BYO	Yvonne 0414590632 Judy 0419371441
13th April	Colin and Juanita Carter 255 Walkerville Road Tarwin Lower for lunch BYO Food, Chairs and Picnic Gear. Also a salad or your favourite dessert to share BBQ available. Meet at Inverloch (Venue TBA for coffee at 10 am before travelling onto the Carters	Yvonne 0414590632 Judy 0419371441
18th April	Easter Display Day (BCAC Cars Only) Apex Park Wonthaggi Cars to be in situ no later than 8.30am please follow parking attendant's instructions re position etc. Food will be available from Lions and there will be a coffee cart on site	
27th April	Motorcycle Run—details of route when you meet Meet at Fincher Street 9.30am for a 10a.m start	Peter Mattea 0421 832 858
29th April	Committee Meeting 7pm Wonthaggi Workmen's Club Wonthaggi	FYI

If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.

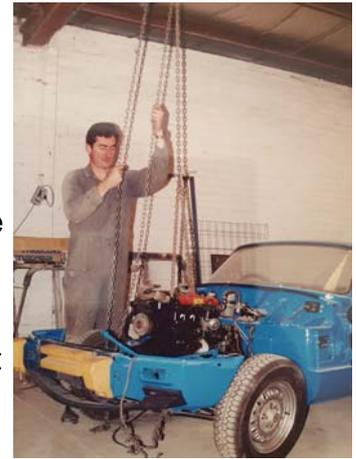
If at first you don't succeed, then skydiving definitely isn't for you

## May 2025

4th May	Autopro Monthly Get Together in car park in front of the Shop 4 Murray Street Wonthaggi 8.30am to 10am All welcome	FYI
6th May	General Meeting Wonthaggi Workmen's Club 7.30pm Dinner prior to the Meeting	
16th May to 19th May	Ocean Grove Weekend Meet at Tooradin Bakery at 10.00am for morning coffee travel to Sorrento on Mornington Peninsula. Catch 12pm ferry across bay to Queenscliff where we will have lunch either BYO or buy. Then onto Ocean Grove. Accommodation reserved at Ocean Grove is Riverside Ocean Grove Motel, 64-78 Wallington Road Ocean Grove Phone 5256 2555. Please call Motel and make your own booking (tell them that you are from the Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club as we have been quote special rates of \$130 per night per room) After arrival we will get together before dinner to make suggestion for the rest of the weekend so if you have anything you particularly want to do please let us know	Yvonne 0414590632 Judy 0419371441
18th May	National Motoring Heritage Day Take you Classic or Historic vehicle or motorbike out for a cruise.	FYI
24th to 25th May	48th Historic Winton Winton Motor Raceway, Benalla 8.30am to 5.30pm	FYI
25th May	Motorcycle Run Meet at Fincher Street 9.00am Hopefully you will join the cars in a run to Jeetho Hall for morning tea (see below for details) and then onto the Kernot Store for lunch.	Peter Mattea 0421 832 858
25th May	Kernot Store Lunch Meet at Fincher Street 9.00am for a leisurely run to Jeetho Hall, 209 Jeetho Road, Jeetho arriving approx 10am where the ladies of the Hall will provide us with morning tea at a cost of \$12.00 per head (Judy will collect before run) Once we have had morning tea we will continue on through the countryside to eventually arrive at the Kernot Store for Lunch	Yvonne 0414590632 Judy 0419371441

## Triumph Spitfire restoration

In early April 1992 I brought a 1971 triumph Spitfire from the US through a company in South Australia. When it arrived from Los Angeles on 15 May 1992 at my father's panel shop we pushed it down the back and I began stripping it down to a bare shell. The car was a non-runner, rust free complete and original with a spare engine in the boot (also a non-runner). Over the next 18 months working mainly weekends I put in 500 hours. The restoration was a family affair, the panel shop was dad's, my brother Bruno rebuilt the engine using the two engines that came with the car and a box of shiny bits I got from England, my other brother David who worked with dad at the shop, did all my welding, panel beating and spray painting, even mum helped by bringing up lunch for us all,



Over the years the Spitfire has completed a lot of club runs, concourse events, club rallies and a few track days including Calder and Sandown race way. The spitty has become part of the family even Lorraine has stopped asking me to sell it if it sits in the shed for too long. My parents and brothers have passed away now so the spitty means more to me now, so even when I get too old to drive it I'm happy to leave it in the shed along with the shed full of memories.



## Wooden Boat Regatta

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Once again the weather was not good to us. However there were 12 of us who did decide it was worth taking the chance of no rain and headed for The Glade in Inverloch. We set up camp in the usual spot under the pines. By now it was definitely coffee time so some set off over to the town for a takeaway warming cup of coffee. Once again we were lucky with the rain which did not eventuate so several people strolled down to the beach to watch the wooden boats out on the water. After lunch which was either brought from home or purchased the weather decided to perk up and by the time we were packing up



to go home at 2pm it was quite sunny,. Again hopefully we will have better weather next year and more members will take the opportunity of a very pleasant day out with good company. Thank you to Brian Davidson for organising the day.



## Willys Restoration

Willys restoration going slow but new front & back screens done, fixtures repaired, polished and in boxes. Newly chromed bumpers arriving soon. Motor back running on 6 volts. Next job - sanding down & respray.

I have extra 6 volt keyhole headlight globes available if anyone needs them.

Colin Carter

## Valentine's Day Sunset Saunter

14th February 2025

Not great weather tonight but there were 16 of us brave souls who turned up at Rainbow Park in Inverloch. Some of us had brought our own food, others decided on takeaway. Fortunately the rain held off and the weather certainly didn't dampen the conversation.

Unfortunately none of us thought to take photos so there is no photographic evidence of us hearty types. Better luck next year, we hope.



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