

BCHAC

A0049447S



Newsletter Volume 16 Number 6
Aug - Sept 2026

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 Email - bchaclub@yahoo.com | Website - www.bchac.com.au
Visitors are always welcome.

PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
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	CLUB PERMIT SCHEME	
AREA	NAME	NUMBER
Leongatha	Colin Graham	0402 957 170 (CPS REGISTRAR)
Wonthaggi	Graham McBain	03 5672 4232 0457 158 760)
Wonthaggi	Brian Davidson	03 5672 2002 0429 722 002
Grantville	Tony Easton	0418 173 255
	SAFETY OFFICERS	
San Remo	Graeme Wagland	0408 996 627
Kilcunda	Jason Sach	0425 462 789

Safety Officers are able to sign normal renewal forms

Front Cover

Peter Mattea's 1995 BMW r1100r up in the Strzelecki Rangers.

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 being my last report, there are many people I would like to thank. The first being my wife Sue who has helped me in many ways over the past 4 years. Next is Brian our Secretary, many thanks for the tireless work he has put into helping me with the running of the club. Also thanks to Judy, Yvonne and Irene for the many lunches, outings and rallies we have enjoyed. Thankyou also to Dianne our treasurer and Peter the newsletter editor. The full support of every committee member has been most appreciated.

I have enjoyed my time as President and I have been very grateful for the friendship shown to me by the Club members. Regrettably we have sadly lost a number of members who have passed away. But on the bright side there has been a steady increase in membership.

There have been many changes and improvements to the Club such as addressing the Taxation issue, our joining the Federation of Motor sports, and the acquisition of our shed to store all our equipment in one place instead of being at various members homes. The Show and Shine has given the club the chance to make a name for itself. Hopefully in the coming years it will go from strength to strength.

Finally I would like to wish all the committee members every success in the upcoming year.

Yours sincerely Keith Tonkin.

FROM THE EDITOR

Now that we have the new programs down loaded on the club's laptop the job of putting together our newsletter is a lot smoother and less clunky, I do enjoy producing our newsletter and I hope that shows in the finished product.

Last issues Guessing Game photo was of our Vice President Pat Kennedy, congratulations to Julie Kilgour for getting it right.

I've had a couple of interesting hand written articles handed to me. This isn't a problem as I can employ one of my minions [Lorraine] to type them into the laptop for me. So if you have a story it doesn't have to be about cars but I still need car stories and photos for the front cover and you can't use a computer just write it on paper and hand it to me at a meeting.

I'd just like to remind everyone to consider running for a position on the committee, without a committee the club would cease to function and from personal experience I can say the effort you put in to the club you get back ten fold.

Peter Mattea

GOOD NEWS

On behalf of BCHAC Committee Brian Asbury Secretary and Judy Dewar Events Co-Ordinator met with Wonthaggi Workers Club (WWC) Function Co-Ordinator Kristen to discuss the use of their meeting room again. I am pleased to advise we will hold our General Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at the WWC commencing on the 4th August 2026. Members are invited to have dinner from 6:00pm prior to the meeting starting at 7:30pm.

Please note the Wonthaggi Golf Club has been advised.

On behalf of the committee I would like to thank members for their helpful feedback on this matter.

Brian Asbury Secretary

Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club Inc. A0049447S

General Meeting at Wonthaggi Golf Club 7th July 2026

Meeting opened at 7:32pm

Attendance and apologies as recorded

Visitors

Don Burton & Jenny Burton

New Members

Nil

Guest Speaker

Ben Leversha spoke about 3D Printing including a number of printers and various filaments used in printing an assortment of items using software files free from the internet warning some AI files are garbage. Items printed included photos, birthday cards, mechanical items and a variety of fidgets. Ben spoke of the hazards associated with the use of resin filaments definitely not to be used inside a house and must wear safety gear. Ben indicated he belonged to the Wonthaggi World War II club meeting in the library setting up tables and playing war games with everything used printed including tanks, planes, foot soldiers, buildings and assorted terrains. Members asked Ben questions followed by applause.

Brian explained our guest speaker planned for tonight is in hospital and thanked Ben for making himself available at the last moment.

Minutes from the previous meeting

Brian read and moved the minutes be accepted

2nd Marj Wagland Carried

Business arising from the previous meeting

Keith explained the \$5000 for charities mentioned previously was only a discussion. Committee had discussed donations agreeing the \$200 given to various guest speakers throughout the year amounted to approximately \$2000 a year was a satisfactory donation to

charities.

Correspondence

26/6/26 Wonthaggi Workers Club to arrange meeting re return

2/7/26 Bendigo Community Bank Grant success & presentation invitation.

6/7/26 Federation membership application

7/7/26 Bendigo Bank Grant Acceptance Agreement

Moved Brian 2nd Red Rodgers

Carried

Pat Kennedy mentioned correspondence received today from Colin Carter but not listed that commented on suitability of the Golf Club for so many members. Brian indicated he had called Colin and explained that committee discussed this issue agreeing to contact the Wonthaggi Workers Club to discuss the possibility of using their function room. Brian and Judy to meet with WWC management to discuss 15th July.

Keith advised that early in the year WWC management were not interested in discussing function room fees. Explaining the Golf Club had been very good to us, great staff, good meals and allowed us to configure the room to meet our needs. However it is crowded and has proved to be not as suitable as first thought and we are grateful to the Golf Club for helping us out.

Treasures Report.

Dianne Adams presented the financial report.

Moved Dianne Adams 2nd Eddy Jackson

Carried

Note: details can be viewed by arrangements with Brian Asbury or Dianne Adams

Reports –

Events

Judy advised the lunch run to Port Welshpool was highly successful.

Newsletter Peter reminded members the closing date for the Newsletter was the 20th July and welcomed stories to be added.

General Business

Keith announced he was not continuing as President but will continue as a committee member. Keith advised he had been in the role for four years and had enjoyed every moment and that he loved the club and its members saying this was the best club in Victoria. Keith went on to encourage members to step up and be part of the committee as we are all getting older. The club needs you to take on roles on the committee for the club to thrive.

Brian also commented the role of the Secretary is an important role and yes it requires a lot of work but the good thing about this committee we all help each other and was particularly grateful for the assistance from committee members received from 2008 with a number of

breaks until 2026. Someone must step up to take on the role. Keith emphasised now was the time while Brian can assist with the system. Brian Davidson raised the issue of scrutineers, roadworthy certificates and declarations to be signed for the club CPS cars. Much discussion was had from members with Keith saying he had phoned, emailed and visited VicRoads to clarify requirements. Advice given was once a roadworthy certificate had been issued and presented with the car for club membership then continued responsibility was on the owner of the car. Pre 1940 cars had to have a certificate of safety signed by a qualified engineer and presented to the club and again the responsibility from then on was on the car owner to maintain the car in a safe roadworthy condition. Noting a roadworthy certificate for 1940 + or engineers certificate 1940 and under was required for a car to be sold.

Yvonne advised the AOMC says there is no need to have cars in a club scrutinised after registration.

Next Meeting

4/8/26

Meeting Closed

8:35pm

Notice of the BCHAC Annual General Meeting to be held 4th August 2026

The meeting will cover:

The minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

Receipt and adoption of the Annual Report from the President.

Receipt and adoption of the Statement of Accounts for the year ended June 2026.

Election of new committee members of the club for the year 2026/2027.

Appointment of an honorary Auditor for the financial year 2026/2027.

Confirmation of the amounts of annual subscription fees.

Transact any other ordinary business (to be notified in writing to the Secretary prior to the 31st July 2026).

Brian Asbury
Secretary

Autopro Cars and Coffee

Here's a few photos from some of the Cars & Coffee mornings I have attended this year. The first Sunday of the month between 8:30 and 10:00 in the Autopro car park in Murray Street Wonthaggi is where it's at.

I encourage our members to dust off their cars {or motorcycles} and get to one or

two of these meetings, not only do you get the chance to exercise your vehicle, you get to meet some nice car minded people and help support one of our clubs sponsors.

Peter Mattea



Sunday Morning Ride & Coffee

Get your bike out of the shed
and on the road
for a gentle ride through
the Bass Coast hills
we stick to back roads
no highways.

Last Sunday of the month
Weather permitting
Meet at Fincher Street
9:30 for a 10:00 start
Ring Peter on
0421 832 858 for details
or just turn up.



BASS COAST
Historical Automobile Club

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Sunday Lunch Run to Rusty Gurnard at Port Welshpool

A cold but bright sunny morning, our two passengers waiting in the drive we set off at 9.30

First stop for coffee at Meeniyan, a dozen other members joined us, too many delicious goodies to choose from at this wonderful bakery. The run to Port Welshpool through the beautiful Gippsland hills. Shevaun welcomed us at the Rusty Gurnard, the whole of one side of the venue had been set up solely for us with tables of 6 & 8 to accommodate our 47 members.

The food was excellent, service friendly & efficient by young smiling staff.

Though very busy with many more patrons as well as us the staff did a great job. A lovely day.

Judy Dewar.

June Motorcycle Ride

Five riders met at Fincher Street and headed east to Port Welshpool to join the car crowd for lunch, we went via Walkerville, stopped at Toora for coffee, passed the wind farm into Welshpool and continued on into Port Welshpool. As usual we took the long way home covering 270

kms for the day.

Peter Mattea



MAY MOTORCYCLE RIDE

There were four riders at Fincher Street on Sunday 31st, Peter Todeschini, Colin Carter, Andrew (soon to join up) and myself, Weather was cold and the rain clouds were threatening. We headed to Korumburra then Ruby, Mt Eccles and into Mirboo North for lunch. We took a back road to Boolara which half was unsealed but smoother than half the sealed roads we had been on (well done Vicroads). Meeniyana was a welcomed coffee break then home through Coonawarra, Outtrim and Kongwak, a few spots of rain around Coonawarra then nothing until I got in my driveway. All up 205kms on a lovely winters day.

Peter Mattea



GUESSING GAME



Can you guess who this Bass Coaster is? Bring your guesses to the August meeting, huge prizes for the correct answer. (or maybe no prize at all).

WONTHAGGI GOLF CLUB

A Brief History of our Meeting Place

The Wonthaggi Club was originally founded in 1911 by the gentlemen of the town during the prosperous coal mining days. The Club provided an alternative from the heavily unionized coal miners union which operated the social gatherings during the towns start up. This included the Wonthaggi Union Theatre and the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club.

The Wonthaggi Club from it's beginning encouraged social interaction amongst it's members via provision of a facility specialising in beverages, billiards, library and card playing.

In 2015 under a mutual agreement, the Wonthaggi Golf Club leased the Club House facility to the to the Wonthaggi Club and together with the Wonthaggi Golf Club are working towards providing their members, guests and visitors with a premium entertainment and social venue called "The Clubhouse".

Jewel Huntriss



A Happy Holiday at Ups & Downs, c1944

"When's he coming home"

"He'll be here soon - just be patient"

It was an agonizing wait. I was excited to be going on holiday.

At last he came but was an age speaking to my father, during which time a deal was done for dad to buy a horse named Queenie.

Soon I was seated on a hard seat beside him on the flat top of the horse dawn lorry that was to transport us both to his home about ten miles away. It seemed to take a long time but at last just before dark we turned into the drive at "Ups & Downs" a farm that over looked the sea at Flat Rocks near Inverloch.

Anne his youngest daughter eagerly ran out to meet her father who swept her up and kissed her on the cheek. I said hello to Anne but she was just a kid. I was older and had come to see her big sister Audrey.

Audrey was at the cowshed milking the cows, so I had to wait for her to come in. The fact that her father had been away all day had kept her later than usual so Annie took me out to see her teatree stick horses while I was waiting. Annie had teatree paddocks laid out on the ground; her horses had names and string bridles and were corralled in their paddocks.

My horse book was in my case with my togs and jodhpurs. I was anxious to see my older friend again for I expected to go riding with her. At last she and her two younger brothers, who were closer to my age, came in from the cowshed and we all had a scrumptious evening meal. I was so hungry and I remember how the creamy mashed potato melted in my mouth.

Afterwards by the dim light from the kerosene lamp Audrey and I poured over our scrapbooks. We had as most children did then, carefully covered all of the writing in a used exercise book with out cutouts. They were outlined in red pencil. Since our last viewing Audrey had been given a blue pencil and her pictures were now outlined in blue!

I was wildly jealous blue pencils were really hard to get then, reds were hard enough but a blue pencil was wonderful! Lucky Audrey! She let me do a page in blue before I went home. She told me that a schoolteacher friend of her mothers had given her a stump of pencil when she cleaned out her desk at the end of the school year.

Audrey still had the wonderful coloured photo of a girl in a red fringed cowgirl outfit holding a palomino pony. It was by far the best in both collections and I gazed at it drinking in its magnificence. Of course I had seen it several times

before but I was blown away. It came from a glossy calendar.

During the day we played as kids do making our own fun. The boys had sleds that we sent skittering down the sandy slopes, sometimes coming to grief and ending in tears. But it was great fun. Audrey didn't spend any time with us because she was working, but on hot days we all went swimming together just across the road from the farm.

The days passed quickly and I have no idea how long I had been staying there when one hot day a flustered Audrey came riding in to the house yard at a gallop shouting for someone to "let the dogs off".

A fire was coming to the back of their farm and we could see the black and white smoke curling into the air as we struggled with the dogs. Audrey was racing to drive the yearling heifers out of the

back paddock. At the evening meal that night we learned the heifers had been saved but the paddocks were black and their feed as well as the fencing was lost.

Next morning while Audrey was milking, Anne, Ivan, Fred and I walked through the blackened paddocks and found some bushes still burning. Here

and there a bewildered animal ran away not knowing where to go now that's its home has been destroyed.

Within days the grim news was that feed for the stock had to be found urgently, so Audrey and I began minding the cattle on the road. It was an adventure for me but having to take the cattle out along the roads each day was a worry for my hosts.

Every morning after breakfast Audrey and I took a lunch of sandwiches, cordial and sometimes cold tea and we saddled our horses and Herded the cattle onto the road. A new patch of grass each day. We found a shady tree where we talked or sang sad mournful hillbilly songs and read comic books. Audrey knew the latest hits and I was impressed because it didn't occur to me to listen to the wireless. Our wireless was kept strictly for listening to the news. Hers was going while she milked the cows and a Tasmanian station broadcast all the latest country and western songs early in the morning. About 2 o'clock we counted the cattle and drove them home.

It is hard to believe that the now busy Cape Paterson-Inverloch coast road was and a rough and narrow white gravel track and that we didn't need to worry about the passing traffic because there wasn't any!

Barbara Moyle

Submitted by Anne Leeson

Photo credit - Wonthaggi Historical Society.



CALENDAR

August

2 nd August	Autopro Monthly Get Together in car park in front of the Shop 4 Murray Street Wonthaggi 8.30am to 10am All welcome	FYI
4 th August	AGM & General Meeting Wonthaggi Workers Club Graham Street Wonthaggi @ 7.30pm Dinner prior to meeting	
16 th August	Korumburra Middle Hotel, 81 Commercial Street Korumburra 12pm for lunch. Meet at Venue	Judy 0419371441 Yvonne 0414590632
27 th August	“Morning Tea at 1911” (Coffee Lounge in Wonthaggi Workers Club) 10.30am Further Details to follow	Judy 0419371441 Yvonne 0414590632
30 th August	Motorcycle Run—details of route when you meet Meet at Fincher Street 9.30am for a 10a.m start	Peter Mattea 0421 832 858

September

1 st September	General Meeting Wonthaggi Workers Club @ 7.30pm Dinner prior to the Meeting	
6 th September	Autopro Monthly Get Together in car park in front of the Shop 4 Murray Street Wonthaggi 8.30am to 10am All welcome	FYI
17 th September	Tooradin Sports Club, Recreation Reserve, South Gippsland Highway, Tooradin 12pm for lunch Meet at Venue	Judy 0419371441 Yvonne 0414590632
27 th September	Motorcycle Run—details of route when you meet Meet at Fincher Street 9.30am for a 10a.m start	Peter Mattea 0421 832 858

Peter's 1995 BMW R1100R

The R1100R went straight from the German factory to Japan and in the 26 years there it only travelled 4,220 kms, this is because a lot of buyers put them in collections or rode them occasionally for pose value.

In 2021 the bike was imported to NSW by Just Jap Auto Imports and purchased by a friend who lives in Leongatha, due to health reasons he decided to sell the bike. In the three years of his



ownership another 5,200 kms were added to the odometer. The bike was 29 years old with under 10,000 kms on the clock and

looked like it just rolled off the showroom floor, I bought the bike without even a test ride.

I've had the bike two years now and it surprises me how good the bike rides, it feels like a new bike which I guess it is because with only 14,000 kms on the clock now, it still isn't run in.

Peter Mattea

FOR SALE

1995 Ford Econovan Long Wheel Base. White Automatic No Power Steering. Registered to 15th September 2025. Engine No. FEZ 96704, Chassis No. JCOAAASGMESL1347 Registration SPK579 Mileage 281493 Price \$2000 please call Yvonne on 0414590632.

1946 Oldsmobile Ace series 66 sedan, Built by Holden between 1946 - 1948 Good condition, Colour is parkstonian green with Leather interior camel colour, Pearl steering wheel. 4611.9 miles on the clock. Price \$20,000 contact Bev Kurrle on 0447 123 318

1961 Vauxhall Cresta Two Tone Blue and White, all original condition except for a replacement exhaust. Top running condition on Club Plates. Engine Number PAX141553. Original purchase documents are available as is a 4-digit South Australian number plate (3887) \$14,000, call Brian 0356722002 at Wonthaggi

1970 MGB unregistered, chassis number J15211837, no rust, done little since engine rebuild \$18,000 firm Call Allan Prentice on 0407 331 733



1975 Mercedes Benz 450 SLC V8 178,000 km, chassis no. 11798522002224 fitted with AMG wheels and original wheels included, comes with RWC. \$18,500 neg, for further information contact Graeme Wagland on 0408 996 627



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