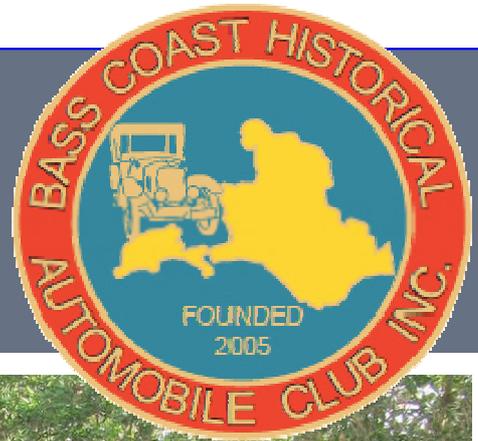


BCHAC

A0049447S



**Newsletter Volume 16 Number 2
Dec 2025 - Jan 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
Keith Tonkin	Pat Kennedy	Brian Asbury
0438 577 367 s-tonkins@live.com.au	0438 230 422 patkennedy1969@gmail.com	0411 237 840 the secretarybchac@gmail.com

TREASURER	MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR	CPS REGISTRAR
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EDITOR	EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR	EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR
Peter Mattea	Yvonne Thompson	Judy Dewar
0421 832 858 bchaclub@yahoo.com	0414 590 632 domzoo1@bigpond.com	0419 371 441 judydewar23@gmail.com

	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 996 672
Kilcunda	Jason Sach	0425 462 789

Safety Officers are able to sign normal renewal forms

Front Cover

Bruce and Christine Harris' Mercedes 380sl at home in the driveway.

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

How lucky were we with our Show & Shine. Last week we had one fine day and Sunday morning it was overcast but not raining. The numbers were well down in the judged cars which is understandable as you all know nobody likes to have any thoughts of rain on their cars. The American car section was a great effort with nearly double the entries, Dave Trotter would have been very pleased with the turnout. There was a great turnout of display cars thank you to everyone who made an effort to bring their cars. The volunteer team needs to be congratulated on the professional presentation in every aspect of the running of the Show & Shine. How proud were Brian, our secretary and myself walking amongst all the volunteers and the spectators. An excellent job well done by everyone. We were lucky enough to have the presentations at 12 o'clock although there was light rain everything went very smoothly and quickly. After the finish of the event the team of volunteers enjoyed a light lunch together in the club rooms, when we had finished we brought the trailers over to pick up the gear and within 20 minutes it was all done and dusted. I am very proud to be the president of a club with so many great people. When thinking about the future outlook of the Show and Shine I don't believe there is much more we can do, except maybe some cutbacks in our expenditure. The only thing we need for a successful day is some sunshine.

There will be plenty of discussion at the volunteers dinner and debrief on Tuesday night.

We have some busy times ahead in the next few weeks. The ladies lunch on Thursday 20th November and the Christmas luncheon on the 7th December at the Workmen's Club.

Bookings are essential for both these events.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy time up until Christmas and at Christmas.

Regards Keith Tonkin (President)

FROM THE EDITOR

You might have noticed that the vehicle on the front cover wasn't one of mine, [my plan is starting to work] Bruce Harris sent in photos and a story on his Mercedes 380SL which I was more than happy to use. I would like to remind members to send me photos and a story on their vehicles for future issues.

Wishing all our members and families a happy and relaxing Christmas and New Year, I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year starting with the Claytons meeting at Tony Cuzzupi's home.

Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club Inc. A0049447S

General Meeting at Wonthaggi Workmen's Club 5th November 2025

Meeting opened at 7:30pm

Keith to acknowledged the custodians of our land.

Attendance and apologies as recorded

Visitors

Jason Leffer and Ray Wallace both introduced themselves and briefly described the vehicles they were working on

New Member Nil

Guest Speaker - Anne Marie Kelly - Stroke Foundation

Anne Marie spoke passionately of her experience from surviving a stroke, recovery and on-going day to day health issues not visible through an apparent healthy vibrant body whilst all the time in the company of Linda her long time carer. Anne Marie went on to provide information and discuss how to read the signs of a person having a stroke. Many questions and personal stroke experiences were shared with Anne Marie some with startling on going health similarities.

Minutes from the previous meeting - Read by Brian Asbury

Moved Brian Asbury 2nd Eddy Jackson Carried

Business arising from the previous meeting Nil

Correspondence

Brian summarised the correspondence and offered any member to view them

3/11/25 RACV re donation

1/11/25 Show n Shine Permit Application to BCS

30/10/25 WesternPort Water Authority - Water Station

30/10/25 3GG confirmation Show n Shine advert broadcast

28/10/25 Bendigo Bank - Marquee

27/10/25 Calvin Simpson - Ground Use

2/10/25 StrokeSafe Guest Speaker confirmation

Moved Brian Asbury 2nd Red Rodgers Carried

Treasurers Report.

Dianne Adams detailed the finances, a copy of the report is attached to the minutes and maybe viewed by arrangement with the secretary.

Moved Dianne Adams 2nd Gail Asbury Carried

Reports—

Judy provided an update on the well being of Yvonne Thompson and Irene Adams as progressing slowly.

Judy reported on past events including Rusty Springs and thanked everyone who attended for the help in the absence of Yvonne and announced it was a resounding success.

Future events announced included, Ladies Lunch, Christmas lunch which will be subsidised with \$10 noting those who will be attending must pay no later than the December General Meeting. The January Claytons meeting will be held at Jumbunna at the invitation of Tony Cuzzupi. The club will be providing the BBQ with members to bring salads to share. Please bring your grandkids and have some fun was Judys message.

Announced from the floor Bev Kurrle was now home with a broken leg and Tim Hancock had a heart attack.

Peter Mattea advised he and five other members rode their motorbikes on the Saturday rather than Sunday due to horrific weather forecast. As usual they finished up at Kelly's Korumburra for lunch.

Keith gave a brief report on the Show and Shine Event

Newsletter

Peter advised 19th November last day for items to published.

Membership

In the absence of Yvonne no report

General Business

Keith announced a Show n Shine Volunteers thankyou dinner and event review 18th November 6:00pm at WWC.

Colin Graham advised the Lower Train Festival was very good with a number of members attending.

By Swap N Sell

Colin Graham announced details of a 1959 Austin Lancer needing a new home urgently

David Dewar announced the sale of 1923 Dodge \$8000. Further work required.

David also has 2 sheets of glass 2feet x 6 feet for sale.

Fun Photo, guess the person

Keith circulated two photos for members to guess the identity after a number of unsuccessful attempts Red Rodgers announced it was him.

Next Meeting 2/12/25

Meeting Closed 8:50pm



Planning a road trip within regional Victoria?

Book in for your FREE tyre and safety check!

We specialise in tyres whether it be vehicles, 4WD, caravan/camper, trailer or trucks.



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RUSTY SPRINGS

BCHAC ANNUAL RALLY OCT 10-14 2025

DAY 1

As the car club took off on its annual rally the sun shining, we had morning tea in Cockatoo then onto Yea for an enjoyable lunch break. On arrival at Rusty Springs everyone quickly unpacked and met in the lounge area for a happy hour and a catch up with old and new friends. We received our rally bags like a bunch of excited kids, then down to the hotel for dinner. After dinner at Rusty Springs we had the first draw of the backwards raffle and more drinks, then off to bed to recover for day two.

DAY 2

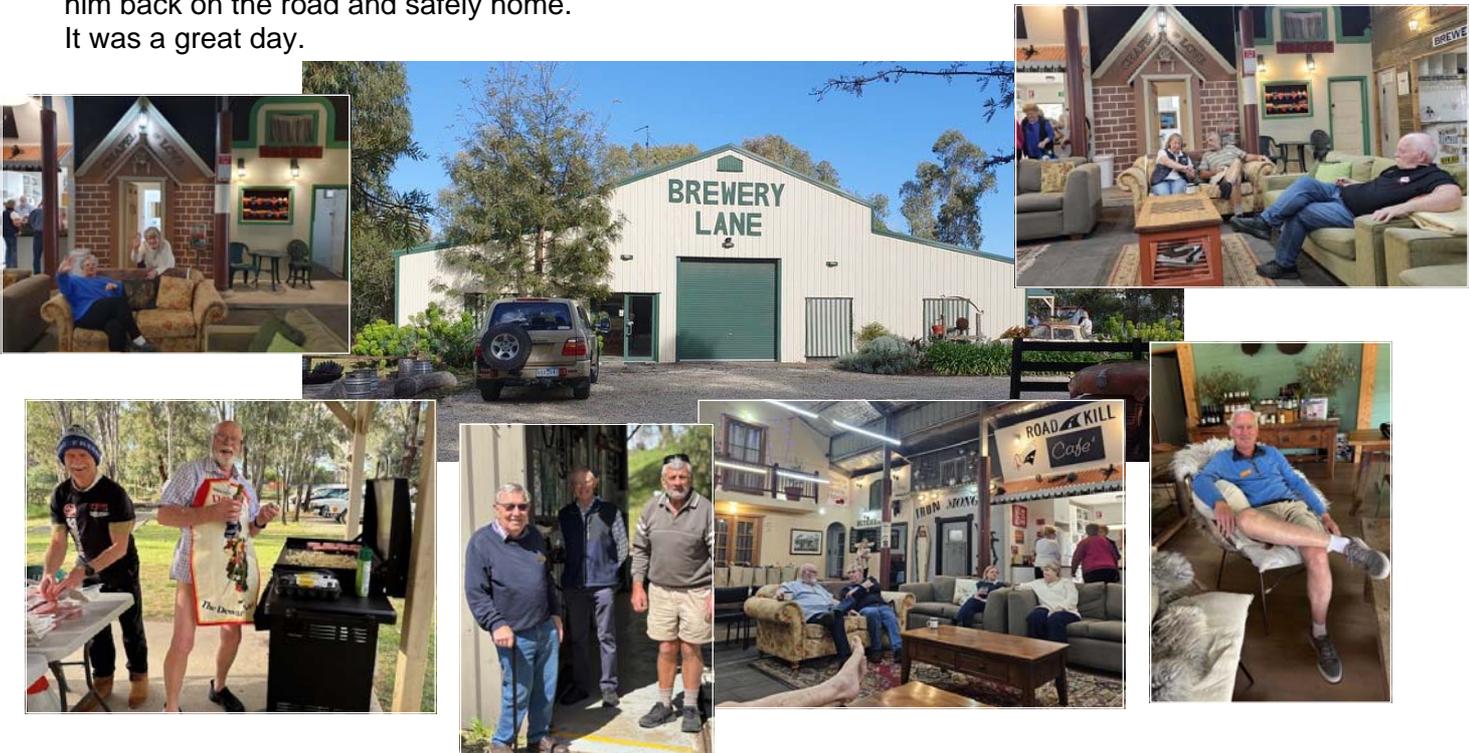
After a sustaining breakfast of David's wonderful porridge we all headed out to visit the Kerrisdale Mountain Railway Museum and what a visit that was! We were greeted by a very 'bossy' Jennifer who, with a twinkle in her eye, directed us to the morning tea table and announced, "It's desert island rules – only one rock cake each!" Jennifer told us that she and her husband, Andrew, had begun to develop the property in 1978 and completed it during Covid. It was amazing to see the workshop with Douglas, a steam engine named after Andrew's father, which was created over 20 years with homemade, recycled and donated parts and is fully operational. The Invincible was another steam engine that was taken apart five times. Steam rallies are held on the property from time to time.

The museum areas housed a variety of steam engines large and small, some were models, some restored colonial engines and some made from Andrew's imagination. He fired up a number of the engines, running them on air instead of steam for convenience, and gave us a talk on their history and use in bygone times. Andrew had also made a replica of an American carousel engine that was named Ruth, after his mother.

A train ride up the steep incline to the summit was the highlight. Apart from the amazing views as we wound higher and higher, Andrew was a wealth of knowledge of the history of the area and the flora and fauna. At The Summit, where we disembarked, we were able to climb the 'tank stand' to take in the views. Around the base there were many relics from the past, all restored, with a Furphy water carrier with a pitman's shorthand inscription that read, "Water is the gift of God, beer and whisky the work of the Devil", a warning to us all! It was a very enjoyable visit to an out of the way treasure. We had passed the sign on the highway many, many times over the years not knowing what a delight was hidden there.

Lunch was at the Strath Creek General Store, where we enjoyed the peace and quiet of the area and the delicious food. Eddie had some problems with his car that Wags helped with, getting him back on the road and safely home.

It was a great day.



DAY 3

Many of us started our day with a visit to the Avenal market, lovely market with lots of homemade goodies and good coffee.

Afterwards a few of us travelled onto Kialla to visit the MOVE [Museum Of Vehicle Evolution]. This was a very interesting place to visit, lots of cars, trucks, motorcycles and numerous collections of memorabilia. Then onto Shepparton where some went to the SPC factory outlet and some for a lovely lunch at Noble Monks, nice meals and very well priced.

Back to Rusty Springs [where some of the crew stayed to watch Bathurst] via a visit to Mitchelton Winery.

Keith and Brian cooked up BBQ burgers for dinner, a glass of wine then bed for all to start another day.

DAY 4

Monday morning, following members having coffees out at various locations, we visited Mick Brauman's home to have a look at his De Soto collection. Quite a few members visited Fowles' Winery for tastings or lunch. In the afternoon we were all bused to Nagambie for a cruise on the lake followed by dinner at the Rowing Club. A fun day ended with the tontine raffle being won by Keith.

DAY 5

After a hearty breakfast it was time to head for home, we all said our goodbyes and left in dribs and drabs but somehow most of us ended up meeting at the bakery in Yea for coffee and cake {because we hadn't had enough}. On behalf of all the rally goers I'd like to thank Judy, David, Yvonne and Irene for organising such great event. I would also like to thank our daily authors {in order contributions} Jewel Huntriss, Marj Wagland, Wendy Rees and Christine Harris.

Peter Mattea



Photo credit ; Go Nagambie.com

SHOW AND SHINE AT DALYSTON

It was a good turn out at Dalyston despite the weather with over 200 cars on the oval and over 70 vehicles being judged. The showers came just before presentation but most attendees stayed for the proceedings.

Winners left to right; USA best presented Kevin Cunningham - Mustang, USA original Rob Wedlock - Chevrolet, USA oldest Dan Hunter - Buick, Original Alan Pullar - Holden HZ,



Best Muscle Glenn Taylor - Holden VK Brock, Best Hot Rod Don Burton - Model A Pick up, Best Pick up Paul Kennedy - Ford Jail bar, Best Paint Dean White - Holden Panel Van,



Best Engine Bay Paul Kennedy - Holden HR, Best Interior Robert Thompson - Holden HR, Best Paint Motorcycle Daniel Gheller - Harley Davidson, Oldest Motorcycle Greg Dell - 1972 Norton, Overall Motorcycle Brett Hall - Honda Z50.



The Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club would like to thank the following sponsors for enabling us to run our Show and Shine,
Bass Coast Shire, AutoPro, Tyrepower, Wonthaggi Workmen Club, RACV, Wonthaggi Toyota, Wonthaggi Kia, Bendigo Bank, Alex Scott Real Estate

OCTOBER MOTORCYCLE RUN

With the forecasted bad weather for the Sunday of the ride, we decided to have an impromptu ride on Saturday. John Hague, Peter Todeschini and myself met up with Colin Carter, Glen Pascoe and Noel Thornby in Leongatha, we went through Mt Eccles onto Mirboo North for lunch, headed down to Meeniyana then home. 180kms for the day with a little dirt road thrown in for good measure, the weather was good. As it turned out Sunday was a very wet and windy day, so it looks like we made the right call.

Peter Mattea



Christmas Breakup

SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2025 @ 12PM

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street, Wonthaggi 3995
Cost \$30pp, 2 course lunch

Payment: By Tuesday 2nd December

Bookings: Please contact; Yvonne 0414 590 632 /Judy 0419 371 441
Bookings need to be made before Tuesday 2nd December. As we need to pay in advance for the number booked then I am afraid if you book and do not let us know before Tuesday 2nd that you are unable to attend then the booking will have to be paid for. Similarly if you have not booked before Tuesday 2nd then you will not be able to attend.

Christmas Hampers

Donations towards our Christmas Hampers will be appreciated.
A list of items will be at the October and November meetings for you to get an idea of what we would like to include in the hampers.
Donations on or before 2nd December meeting please.
A box will be provided at each meeting for your donations.
We thank you in advance for your generosity.

CALENDAR

December 2025

2 nd	General Meeting 7.30pm Wonthaggi Workmen's Club	
7 th	Autopro Monthly Get Together In carpark at front of shop, 4 Murray Street 8.30am to 10am All Welcome	FYI
7 th	Christmas Break Up Wonthaggi Workmen's Club 12. Noon \$30pp. Book and pay to Yvonne by 3 rd December	Yvonne 0414590632 or Judy 0419371441

January 2026

6 th	Claytons Meeting will be held at Teresa & Tony Cuzzupi's home in Jumbunna at Jumbunna Retreat, 270 Goochs Road, Jumbunna From 5pm onwards BBQ available bring meat, drinks, and either a salad or dessert to share Tea & Coffee will be available	Yvonne 0414590632 or Judy 0419371441
10 th	Wonthaggi Show FYI – PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A CLUB EVENT	FYI
11 th	Korumburra Swap Meet Korumburra Showground Admission \$5 per person under 16 Free. Sites \$20 per person +\$5 per person Sites allocated on arrival No Prior Booking	FYI
18 th	Festival of Motoring Cruden Farm, Cranbourne Frankston Road Langwarrin Entry \$10 per person. Display cars must be pre-booked. Bookings close 15th December \$20 per car. See AOMC website for entry form	FYI
27 th	Power Twilight Cruise and Dinner Wonthaggi Power Football Grounds 4.30 pm for a cruise around Wonthaggi then back to the Clubhouse for a meal	Keith Tonkin 0438577367
28 th	Power Show & Shine (see Flyer in this Newsletter) Wonthaggi Rec Reserve Exhibitor & Driver \$15 Gates open 6am for Stallholders & Exhibitors	
26 th	Australia Day TBA by SMS contact	

February 2026

3 rd	General Meeting 7.30pm Wonthaggi Workmen's Club	
7 th – 8 th	Darnum Heritage Display Day 48 Peddar Street, Darnum Saturday 10am to 4pm Sunday 9.30am to 3pm Admission \$15 5-12 yrs \$5.00 Exhibitors FREE	Yvonne 0414590632 or Judy 0419371441
14 th	Valentine Day – Sunset Saunter Meet at Rainbow Park, Inverloch 5pm Bring Chairs, table & drinks BYO food or buy	Yvonne 0414590632 or Judy 0419371441

Bruce and Christine's 1985 Mercedes 380SL

After a year long search for a top quality Mercedes, we purchased our vehicle from a dealer in Thomastown. The car had only done 120,000 km, was Australian delivered, had a hard top and included a new canvas top. It came with a RWC provided by the dealer.

We took delivery and over the next year undertook several repairs including full air-con renewal (it was winter when we purchased!). We took the opportunity at that time to renew the radiator and other components which degraded with age. We also had some steering components renewed to remove some free play a Merc should not have. A stripping of the 4 speed auto by a Korumburra workshop to fix transmission leaks was totally successful and the internals were confirmed as near new.

I was playing around under the bonnet one day when I noticed a plug and marching socket were not connected as they should be. When the plug was reconnected I found the ABS warning light came on when driving. Our mechanic in Inverloch informed us that the wheel speed sensor was faulty. He, and later we, attempted to locate a replacement but Mercedes Benz had no stock worldwide and no after market suppliers could provide the part. Our mechanic said that because this model was delivered with ABS as standard, a roadworthy certificate could not be issued.

I believe the dealer we purchased from had found the sensor problem and simply disconnected it thus disabling the ABS. He then issued a roadworthy certificate. Not very nice and probably illegal. After much worry about our club registered vehicle being technically unroadworthy, a friend suggested we try Crowder Motors in Frankston. This we did and several weeks later Keith Crowder managed to find a secondhand sensor which he fitted. Unfortunately after a couple of years the replacement sensor failed. I began searching the internet for compatible sensors and discovered a UK supplier called The SL Shop which had wheel sensors listed as available. I ordered two and received confirmation of their shipping. I contacted Keith to tell him the good news only to find that he had found another secondhand part, had fitted it, and the car was ready to be picked up!

We are now delighted to have our 380SL good to go, technically roadworthy and having two spare sensors. We took the car on the Club's recent Rally to Avenel and it performed faultlessly, apart from an annoying rattle in the rear (something else to have investigated).

I turned 80 recently and find getting in and out of the car is not easy. We may have to start searching for something easier to manage!

FOR SALE

1995 Ford Eonovan 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) \$14,500,

call Brian 0356722002 at Wonthaggi

1989 Toyota Celica Automatic
Show room condition. RWC, currently on
club plates \$10,000

Call Peter on 0474 181 182



WANTED

Trimatic in working order, call Red on
0417 592 837

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