



THE OFFICIAL  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
MORRIS CAR CLUB  
(VIC) Inc. A0017484

# The Bull's Eye



Next meeting Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

@ Pascoe Vale RSL

*EVERYONE WELCOME*

# January 2020

Hello members and friends,

### **Welcome to the roaring 20s!**

I hope this year we get to see each and every one of you at a meeting or event or two, there's a lot planned.

Firstly, one of the final events of the year will be the Morris – BMC Show Case and other related marques to be held at Little River on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

Invites will be going out shortly to all Victorian, South Australian, New South Wales and Tasmanian Morris and BMC related clubs.

### **Why are we running this event?**

There is a growing interest in historic vehicles, and it is important that as owners of these cars we have an opportunity to showcase them to our peers and the public.

### **The day in a snapshot**

There will be judging, and trophies awarded to a large range of the domestic and commercial vehicles displayed. We will run our club show and shine at the event in conjunction with the broader attendees from other clubs.

There will be live music, trade and restoration presentations along with a silent auction. There will also be activities organised for children which should allow attendees with children to have an uninterrupted wander around the displays.

Entry will be free for cars and the public, we are not doing this to make money, our focus is to showcase as many vehicles as possible.

### **You can play a part**

Events like these need people to play a part for them to be successful. Below is a high-level list of the tasks that will need to be organised and run:

**Promotions** – preparation of materials to send to the other clubs, the media, motoring associations. Press releases to the motoring press and other local and state media outlets to raise interest.

**Venue preparation** – we have booked the venue for the entire weekend so the plan is to do the setup on the Saturday so we can make the most of the day on the Sunday.

**Catering** – we will know numbers as the year progresses, but we do know there will be a reasonable number from Victoria so having the food available throughout the day will be critical. Loaned BBQs, portable fridges etc. will also be needed.

**Judging** – we will need a group of knowledgeable people to undertake the judging activities. Categories will be decided over time but will span commercial, pre 50s, post 50s cars, vans etc.

**Administration** – Good logistics and project management will be critical to make this event work as well as it can. Activities such as registration of entrants, answering queries from potential entrants, dealing with trade and industry reps are just a few to name at this stage. Ideally it would be great to have small teams working on the other social and children related activities to be sure each activity is run as well as possible.

A more detailed list of roles and responsibilities will be developed over the coming weeks. If you can help with any of the above, please email me at the address below.



Finally, our Morris Major was sold on Christmas eve. The purchasers are now members of the club, a special call out to Lynne (above) and Bob Beaumont from Lismore. Lynne's father Les, owned several Major Elites in which she learned to drive, has named the Major "The Great Leslie" in honor of her father. A note to all those who never believed that a historic car could win a heart, Bob bought the car as a surprise Christmas present for Lynne. The deal was sealed Christmas eve and presented Christmas day. A great story and their purchase will see the car remain as part of the club, an objective all of those that worked on him hoped would be realised. Welcome Lynne and Bob and we look forward to catching up as a club.

See you all soon, stay safe, stay well and keep dreaming.

Best wishes,

Stephen Whitworth

President

## Run Report Christmas Function

What a great day we had! We had the best turn out of members to a Christmas function for many years - 34 Adults and 4 children. In addition to enjoying a delicious meal, plenty of conversation and the company of good friends, the Christmas function was also the time for the long awaited raffle to be drawn – to find out who the lucky person was who would win the very nice little Morris Major Elite. ‘The Major’ as it was affectionately known, underwent quite a mechanical transformation prior to the raffle thanks to the hard work and dedication of several club members.

Drawing of the raffle was quite an event with barrel girls and ping pong balls, all overseen by the raffle master Stephen Whitworth. Stephen put in a huge effort setting up and running the car raffle. The Major now has a new home in Geelong; the winning ticket was sold by Shayne Martin. And Grace Spiteri was the winner of the door prize of a Christmas hamper.

After all of that excitement, Santa arrived, with gifts for the children. Then it was Stephen’s turn to get a photo with Santa - I hope Santa’s knees survived ok, he has lots of work to do in the not too distant future.

Thank you to all the members who sold and bought raffle tickets; thanks also to Brian in the big suit who was great as usual. Lastly, thank you to everyone who attended and made it another great day out for the club. Attendees: Brian Moore, Stephen Whitworth, Bill Flaherty, Tim Oakley, Geoff Meehan, Rob and Anne Quinn, John and Annette Brooksmith, Ken and dawn Daws, Ian Smith, Joyce and Joe Farsaci, Scott and Penina Booker, Elaine Booker, Jo-Anne and Matt Davis and family, Graeme and Valda Webb, Graeme Williamson, Horace and grace Spiteri, Rod Bowers, Bevan and Adriana James, Shayne and Paulette Martin, Kathleen and Ollie Morris, Tony and Margaret Cronin, and Tony and Marilyn Bullen.



The Irishman, the Englishman and the Australian

Part 3 – The end of BMC

Herbert Austin missed out on buying Wolseley in 1927. Ultimately, though, Austin and Morris merged in 1952.

By this time, Austin had passed away (in 1941), so unfortunately, was not there to see Wolseley become part of the same company the Austin car company was part of.

By the time of the merger, Leonard Lord was running Austin. William Morris was still in charge at Morris and agreed to run the then new BMC for the first year, before retiring. He passed away in 1963.

Morris, Austin and Wolseley were all trailblazers in the motor industry in their own right. They should be considered in the same light as Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos and co. In the same way, they were at the cutting edge of new technology and followed their dreams to great success.

But did these companies really die? Their auto manufacturing wings certainly did, but in some ways they are still alive. For example, Wolseley is now the world's largest distributor of heating and plumbing products.

In the same way, the Armstrong Siddeley name continues as Hawker Siddeley and now renamed as British Aerospace (BAE systems).

Wolseley and Austin both had close ties to Australia and perhaps if they had moved to Australia after federation, may have become Australian citizens. As it was, they lived a large part of their lives in Victoria and NSW.

William Morris also had a fondness for Australia and Morris cars were very popular in Australia.

Although many people consider Holden and Ford to be Australian companies, both companies have their roots in the USA. Now, neither company manufactures in Australia.

Austin, Morris and Wolseley manufactured cars in Australia for many years, with local input into design to suit local conditions. They should be considered in the same light as GMH and Ford.

There are not the same ties between Walter Chrysler, Henry Ford, Louis Chevrolet or William Durant and Australia as there are with Wolseley, Morris and Austin.

**Sent in by Andrew Read**

## Calendar of events

### February

23rd

### *National Air Craft Museum*

Today we are off to the National air craft museum, via Westgate park were we will meet for the first outing of the year and enjoy coffee and cake / doughnuts (BYO coffee and treats). After a catch up we will then travel in convoy to the museum. The museum address is 12 First Street Moorabbin Airport. Lunch will be at the Flight Deck Bar and Grill, which I will need to book, so I will need to know how many will be attending. Please let me know if you plan to attend 0402528652.

The Flight Deck Bar and Grill is at 37 First Ave Moorabbin Airport.

Meeting Time at Westgate Park: 09.00

Meeting point: Westgate Park,. Entry to the park off Todd Road. For those of you who still like to use Melways, the reference is 56 F1.



## March

21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>

### **2-Day Club Run, Ballarat Morris Minor Club 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**

This outing will require an overnight stay in Ballarat on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March. There are many activities over the two day event. Lunch and dinner on Saturday, Morris Minor Olympics, and Show and Shine on Saturday afternoon. On Sunday there will be an economy run, and an anniversary lunch.

Meeting point: Rockbank BP Mc Donald's.

Time 9.00am for a 9.30am drive off. We will be traveling in convoy.



Club Captain Tony Bullen

## April

19th

### [April Joint Outing With the Ballarat Morris Minor Car Club](#)

On this outing we will be joining the BMMC on a club run to the Morris Minor Garage in Harcourt. We will have lunch with them first in Castlemaine at the Cumberland Hotel, 191 Barker st, at 11.30am. After lunch we will head off in convoy to the Morris Minor Garage at Harcourt where we will enjoy a tour of the garage followed by afternoon tea.

Meeting point to travel in convoy to Castlemaine:

Calder Park BP Mc Donald's

Time: 9am for drive off 9.30am

Costs for the day: counter lunch

Entry to the Morris Garage which includes afternoon tea \$15 per person.

## May

23rd

### [A workout for you and your classic](#)

The March outing will take us to a few places which will involve a good workout for your classic and some walking for you. We will start the day heading for Mt Macedon via Sunbury and Riddells Creek. Once we have driven up Mt Macedon our first stop will be the Camels Hump, which is a very scenic walk so bring your walking shoes. The walk is all uphill but worth the effort, and we can take our time so it shouldn't pose any problem. After we have taken in the great view from the top we will then drive to the tea rooms near the Memorial Cross for a well-earned cup of tea or coffee, and then another walk to the Cross which is relatively flat. After that, back into the car and a mostly downhill run to our final destination-Paramoor Winery at 439 Three Chain Road, Carlsruhe - for a well-deserved lunch. As I will need to make a booking for lunch please let me know if you will be coming on this outing. Meeting point Calder Park BP Mc Donald's car park

Time 08.30 for a 09.00 move off.





## June

TBA [\*A Trivia Day\*](#)

More information closer to the day. Scott Booker is helping with this event.

## July

18th [\*Red Lion Brewery, Kilmore\*](#)

Today we are off to Kilmore. We will be travelling through Sunbury, Romsey, and Lancefield. It is the middle of winter so a good excuse to have some comfort food and a nice drive. The Red Lion Brewery is set up like an American diner with an automotive theme. It has a great menu from diner style food to traditional pub food, so all tastes are covered. Address 43-45 Sydney Street Kilmore

Meeting at Calder Park BP Mc Donald's

Time 9.30 for a 10.00 move off

We will be travelling in convoy



## August

16th

### *Maldon Outing*

On this outing we are travelling back in time to the gold rush town of Maldon. It is a lovely little town almost untouched by the 21st century. We can browse the many antique shops, have coffee in one of the many coffee shops, and if you have a sweet tooth and you like old fashioned sweets they have a great lolly shop. Your children or grandchildren would be very pleased with any purchase! We will have lunch at the Kangaroo Hotel 89 High street Maldon.

Meeting at Calder Park BP Mc Donald's

Time 8 am for 8.30 drive off

We will be travelling in convoy



## Classifieds

If anyone has anything they would like to sell please email me at [joeyejdavis@gmail.com](mailto:joeyejdavis@gmail.com) and I will put it in.

## Committee contact details

### 2019-2020 MCCV Committee

<b>President</b>	Stephen Whitworth- <a href="mailto:Stephen,whitworth3@gmail.com">Stephen,whitworth3@gmail.com</a> - 0419310031
<b>Vice President</b>	Tim Christie - <a href="mailto:timothychristie@bigpond.com">timothychristie@bigpond.com</a> - 0409 966 942
<b>Secretary</b>	Bevan-Rhys James - <a href="mailto:bevan@brjames.com.au">bevan@brjames.com.au</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Geoff Meehan- 0400 961 123
<b>Club Captain</b>	Tony Bullen- 0402 528 652
<b>Bull's-Eye Editor</b>	Jo-Anne Davis- <a href="mailto:joeyejdavis@gmail.com">joeyejdavis@gmail.com</a>
<b>Web master</b>	Andrew Read- <a href="mailto:A.Read.BoM@gmail.com">A.Read.BoM@gmail.com</a>
<b>Club Ambassador</b>	Alain Ribas
<b>Club Scrutineer</b>	Rod Bowers