



Torque Talk

The journal of the Milton Ulladulla Vintage & Classic Car Club

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Our Cover

***Les Whale's perfectly restored 1950 Morris
"Low Light" – See Part 2 of his story!***

Contents:

<i>Presidents Report</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Special Feature</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>Club Events</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Special Feature</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>Wheel Nuts</i>	<i>Page 10</i>
<i>Christmas Party</i>	<i>Page 12</i>
<i>Member News</i>	<i>Page 13</i>
<i>Other Events</i>	<i>Page 14</i>
<i>Puzzles & Bits</i>	<i>Page 15</i>
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	<i>Page 16</i>

Puzzle Solution: Streamlined

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From the President

Hi Everyone,



It's been a busy few weeks with several new members joining the Club. I would like to extend a warm welcome to each of you and I am sure that all members will do the same at meetings and events.

We have held several club runs such as Willinga Park which was a very well run event and a great place to show off our cars! A large number of members came along, although Tom Taylor nearly did not make it due to mishaps with his car, but still managed to get there - He's a determined chap!

Other events such as WheelNuts and Coffee Runs were also well supported, with WheelNuts still getting more & more member participation with each day out.

The other great day was at the Civic Centre in Ulladulla, where the cars were on show for the NDIS Information Day. It was very pleasing to see all the community support for mental health, the NDIS, The Red Cross and the various other stalls. Well done to Steve Burgess and Claire Diesendorf for organising this event.

I would also like to thank Geoff & Bev Phillips for their hard work organising the days out and wish Geoff good luck for next year's knee operation.

For 2024, come on everybody – let's make next year special with greater member participation at events like this. After all, this is why you join the MUVCCC - to have fun and enjoy the friendships we develop.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the Committee for their hard work in the past year.

In finishing, I would like to wish all members and their families a happy Christmas and a safe New Year.

'Til next time.

Colin



Club Member Special Feature

Les Whale continues his story of his restoration of a 1950 Morris Minor "Low Light". (Part 2)

Note: This story has been edited from Les Whale's original story. He has prepared a wonderfully detailed review of this project, which could be a "handbook" for anyone wanting to complete a detailed restoration. Contact Les or your editor for the unedited version.

In the last issue, Les had completed much of the bodywork and engine. The work continues...read on!

Interior and Completion

While Les had made good progress, he had been giving deep thought to planning the interior trim and final paintwork. Just before Christmas in 2021, Les had completed the two side headlining pieces, and the large centre headlining section, all beautifully covered in nice new felt. In addition, he had also completed the front bucket seats in beige trim with maroon piping that looked just like when new! Les had been able to purchase a complete trim kit from Newton Commercial in the UK, which included seat covers, padding kits, door and rear quarter panels, parcel shelf, carpet and underfelt and all the clips, screws and cup washers! He had worked on the seats progressively over a year or so, and was pretty pleased with the job. He had bought the headlining felt locally to match the original velour-type of covering, the only thing Newtons didn't supply.



The Newtons instructions for the rear base and squab were less detailed, but were easy to follow.

Les had planned to get the front seat covers installed by a professional motor trimmer, but after Newtons kindly provided a copy of their own in-house instructions, the Scottish ancestry in Les persuaded him to have a crack at doing it himself, and thus save a wee bit (think a lot) of money. It was a huge learning curve, with a bit of trial and error involved – the roll tops were particularly tricky to get right with the correct amount of wadding, and installing the panels on the back of the squabs was even trickier. The front bases were more straight forward than the squabs, except for the "sewing" of the covers to the underneath padding section, which had left him with rather sore hands.

Amusingly, the Newtons instructions said to use the original horse hair if it was in good condition, (which it was, but Les topped it with some additional felt and some special foam rubber which Newtons supplied). We don't know how many horses contributed their manes and tails to the original seat padding but Les was happy to have retained some of their originality. Giddy-up!

The next few months saw rain, rain, and even more rain! Les now planned to get into the final paintwork, but the rain was not helping one bit! After Easter in April 2022, an opportunity arose to make progress. He made the most of it, getting final coats of black acrylic on all the panels and body.

This paved the way for the next steps – to finally put the Morris all back together again. Johnny B arrived & was straight into it, helping to get the engine and gearbox onto the crane and into the engine bay before bolting them up snugly.

Our intrepid restorers decided it would be a good idea to cut back/compound all the paintwork before fitting up the panels. Les had been hesitant about using a large rotary polisher which could cut through the paint in the blink of an eye in the hands of an amateur (meaning his hands!). After doing some research, he discovered a good compounding job could be achieved with a dual action polisher, so he bought himself one. Les was amazed and impressed with the results from the DA compounding. Did it even need a final polish?



The panels were on, all painted, compounded and looking pretty sharp. The interior was all there, just had to be installed at the right time and the engine was just about ready for a test start – except the Morris didn't have an exhaust system fitted yet! In addition, the split screen windscreen is notoriously difficult to install!

Through the Looking Glass

From late May 2022 through June and July the assembly of the split bumper bars was completed and Les finally purchased & fitted the correct length fan belt!! (Some models' engines use a slightly shorter fan belt!) He then installed the grille, and fitted up the doors with their door handles and chrome window frames and glass, the weather strips and plastic inserts for door trims. Next came headlights and horn, installed and hooked up, followed by the radiator and then the bumper bars. In addition, he fitted the rubber flaps between the front guards and the bumper valences, just like when new. Not many people know about these!

Now glass in the doors is one thing, but the windscreen was a different matter. Fortunately, he had been given advice with photos from Denis Woodford, who had been down this road a couple of years before. While side windows, and even the small rear window can be a one-man job, the windscreen was going to need at least two and the "Woodford" method!



Les managed to install the side windows by himself, but Johnny B was needed for the windscreen and the rear window! So, come August, Johnny B came to help again.

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The first thing they did was to install the large centre headlining piece, definitely a two-person exercise. With this in place, they were ready for the rear window to go in. They used the same procedure as for the side windows. Once this was in, they screwed on the internal metal surround.

Next, the dreaded front windscreen. Denis' method was to use a timber framework set up in, and across, the doorways that kept pressure on the screen and held it in place while the rubber was pulled over the body lip, so Les had made this before Johnny B had arrived. They set this up, and with the rubber sourced from Old Auto Rubber at Penrith carefully inserted around the two windscreen sections and with the required slave pillar in place, they set about the process. Johnny B sat inside applying progressive force with timber wedges between the frame and the screen, while Les pulled the cord lifting the rubber over the lip. They used Vaseline this time rather than soapy water for lubrication, and it did the trick nicely. Denis' tip to tape a cord on the inside to pull the bottom lip out worked well and the rubber fitted beautifully, with a shared sigh of relief.

The next major job needing two people was bleeding the brakes. Then Johnny B helped with fitting the ignition light, which sounds simple enough, but is a terribly designed fitment, unless you have the factory installation tool. With Les under the dash and Johnny pushing on the light from above, they finally got it in, only to find later that this brand-new light was a "dud" and had to be replaced. Johnny also helped with installing the steering column and the gearbox lid and lever, which then enabled Les to bolt in the gearbox floor cover.

Les completed a few other tasks after Johnny left, which included modifying and fitting the spare wheel bracket, installing the fuel filler neck and cap, inserting the piping between the body and rear guards, (front had been done with the grille), and finally fitting the proper wheels and new tyres. It was time for another "Yippee!"

The Final Path to Redemption

Before getting the engine started, a few things had to be done. In particular, the vehicle didn't have an exhaust system yet, and Les still had to fit the heater! (Although there is no water pump on early model SV engine!) In addition, there was the newly refurbished interior to be installed; and trafficators had to be fitted before the interior rear quarter trim panels.

It was now time for the interior. Starting with the fiddly carpet pieces that need gluing, then the front kick panels. Then, mistakenly, Les fitted the parcel shelf before trying to fit the heater. (He must like rework!) Les purchased a complete new exhaust system in 3 pieces, ready to fit. His friend Bobby arranged for two complete systems to be made up using Les's old engine pipe and a borrowed tail pipe as templates. This enabled Les to install a new exhaust and also help some students from a girls' high school to also work on fitting an exhaust to an identical Morrie for a school project!

Les was keen to install a heater and had to cobble it together, but it came up nicely. But how to get coolant circulating through it from the thermo-syphon cooling system?? Well, on

eBay, Les had found a NOS 1950s Smiths external water pump kit which was specific for the engine type, and sits proudly in the engine bay. It is mounted on the generator, and driven by the flat side of the fan belt. Once the hoses were installed, the car was ready for the heater installation itself. This is where some fun started. With the parcel shelf in place there wasn't enough space for the heater to squeeze through, so Les had to drop the front of the parcel shelf, and even lower the steering column. Even then, there was a struggle, but he finally managed to get it in. Hmm Something to remember for the next Morrie Restoration!



Next step was to install a glove box insert and radio cassette player. Nice! Then the rear end was finished off with a boot handle, rear lights, boot badge and reflectors. Everything was coming together. But there was still more work needed so in November & December, front blinkers, door trims, rear quarter panels, sill plates, additional gauges were installed. Johnny B was coming again in December 2022, just before Christmas to assist Les with a couple of quick 2-man tasks and then they would finally start the engine!!

Finally the moment arrived and the engine came to life! As it turned out, the engine started readily, albeit with a few teething problems with the carby, which Johnny set himself to sort out. However, shortly after, the engine refused to start at all! Some quick troubleshooting found that the brand-new repro coil bought from Holdens in the UK had failed. Jury-rigging the old coil to the distributor fixed the problem and made permanent later. Les would still be left to fine tune a few things, like adjusting the timing advance by road testing and getting the carby mixture right, but the Morris was going at last! In January 2023, Les set about finishing the beautiful interior – including a dash gauge cover, underfelt and carpet, steering wheel, horn button...and finally the front seats, all in their original colours. There were just a few bits left to do – chrome windscreen surround, and the screen wipers fitted. The pinstriping had yet to be done and the hubcaps had to be pushed on, but she was ready for rego inspection.

Finally! What a journey. It was time for a "Whoop, whoop"! On 1st March 2023, Les drove to Ken Matthew's workshop in Ulladulla for rego inspection which "passed with flying colours". A little later, Les fitted the new number plates and promoted the Morris to the house garage with its younger sibling to continue a life where the little Morris Minor could be appreciated by all.



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Club Event – Willinga Park Car Show

On 12 Nov, the MUVCCC was invited to participate in the Willinga Park Classic Car & Bike Show held at the Equestrian Centre at Bawley Point. Member participation was outstanding with many cars on show with great MUVCCC representation across the site. The event attracted an amazing array of vehicles from many clubs, with great attendance by the general public - for the purpose of raising funds for the Cancer Council. Well done to all involved!! Special thanks to Club member, Ces Skwarko for his organisational efforts to assist in our Club's participation.



This truly is an impressive vehicle



Ahh the "New" Ford Capri...so many fond memories



Julie & DJ enjoying the sun and Jim relaxing with Pete & Sue



And some other motors on display!!



The famous Jaguar Engine!! Hmmm - This may explain some things



A great day with smiles all round – Yes Kevin is smiling!!



Dunno how I got them both here...



What is that Thing? ...ahh it exactly that - The VW Thing

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Looks great – how's the "headroom"?



An International Truck – I bet that tray has never seen a load!!



Member reaction at the opportunity to buy a 1991 Subaru....



*Here's something for "Registrar Joe"
That's quite the hood ornament*



The 60s didn't just have great music! Look at these 2 stunners!



Roger – rightly proud of his GTS Monaro ... and his legs!



The Solar array at Willinga - and that's only about half of it!



*Ahhh... The well-prepared MG Owner
Spare spark plugs in the engine bay...naturally!*

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Club Event – Champagne & Chicken at Ulladulla Rotary Park

On 29 October 2023, the MUVCCC had a wonderful late afternoon picnic at the Rotary Park in Ulladulla. The park is a wonderful venue with outstanding views. About 35 members attended to enjoy chicken and salads together with an assortment of wine, beer... and of course, champagne!!

Once again, Bev & Geoff ensured all members were looked after, whilst Joe was equally busy in "Registrar" mode! Thank you for all you do!



Garry & Charli enhancing the Mustang!



Graham & Kerry – enjoying some quality time!



Foods up...discussion ends!!



Oh no...any more wine?



Who cares - so long as I'm fed!



"Tom...stop posing and look where we are going!"



A good time had by all who attended



Kevin puts on his Italian accent-and just what is in that bag?

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Member Story: New Member Andrew Draper makes his introduction!

Story & Photos courtesy of Andrew Draper

Hello everybody, I'm a new member of the MUVCCC this year and I am looking forward to meeting you all. I'm based in Sydney during the week working as a school teacher, but we spend a lot of time at Orient Point where we keep our classic car, a 1970 Morris Traveller.

I have owned this car since 1993, when, working as an apprentice engineer, I bought the car in bits off of my old boss. He said all the welding was done and there was nothing left to buy – both statements found to be very false! The car was a wreck, plates had been spot-welded over huge rust holes, the car was several shades of maroon, fibreglass wings had been fitted and the engine bay had been "brush painted" in red oxide – without removing ANYTHING (that took years to fix!!!). BUT the car had a complete new wood kit in the back and a replacement silver seal gearbox too. So a decent 400 quid!!



Dad is a (now retired) carpenter, so after cutting our teeth on the welding job (and enlisting help for some of the tricky bits) installing the wood was easy. She still runs that original wood kit. We also resprayed the car in the correct shade, being "Maroon B" in cellulose.

I moved to Australia in 2004 and brought the car with me. Within 6 months the sun had faded, baked and bubbled the cellulose finish so in 2006 I resprayed it in acrylic (with help from a mate!) It looked great, for about 10 years – but then the sun got to that too. The roof and bonnet are now cracked and crazed, so another respray is on the cards sometime soon.

In 2016, on the way back from Albury, the original motor finally let go. I drove 400km on three cylinders before it expired entering Sydney. There was a nightmare period

rebuilding the original motor before I bought a replacement uprated engine from the Morris Minor Centre for the price of a set of tyres for our everyday car. Now all is good again, and we have a little more "umph" with a Cooper camshaft and high compression pistons too!! There's always something to do with these cars, isn't there? But aside from chasing some electrical gremlins out the Morris is pretty bulletproof. I'm looking forward to meeting you all soon, with my wife (Paola) and probably my youngest (James, 13) in tow!

Andy

PS – we are doing an EV classic restoration with the kids at school – you can see more at:

QUTEProject.com



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Regular Club Events - Wheels Nuts (Nov)

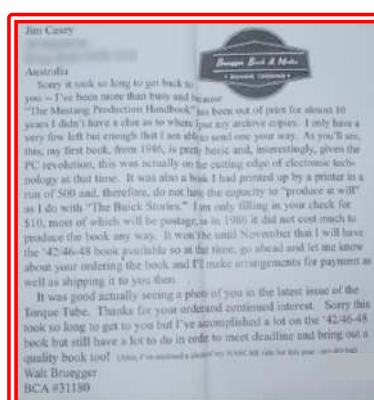
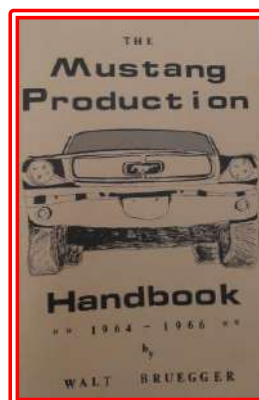
November's event was affected by some damp weather and as a result, most members left their valuable cars in the garage, seeking to avoid a case of "Spongitis" (a condition that affects car washing!) However, 29 members took the opportunity to catch up and exchange stories of what is happening, cars from the past, their features and their foibles!



2 special vehicles to brave the inclement weather!



It may have been damp, but there was many "a-good" conversation



Jim Casey shared a special book written by Walt Bruegger. Walt has written books on Buicks, but also Mustangs. Something special for our many Mustang owners. Thank you, Jim for sharing this special item.



Hmmm...Rain avoidance syndrome?



Terry & Alan arrive in Style...and demonstrate the "K-9 model" Reversing Camera!! Optional feature only on the Rolls Royce!!

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Regular Club Events - Wheels Nuts (December)

The December edition of WheelNuts was a special affair. The 3rd of December was **International Day for People with Disability** and a “party in the park” was held at the Ulladulla Civic Centre. The MUVCCC was happy to participate and present our vehicles to people attending this event. Both the weather and the members did not disappoint, with a beautiful day and 29 members participating on the day.

Thanks to Steve Burgess and Claire Diesendorf for organizing our participation in support of the local community and, in particular, for people with a disability.



I wonder what (or who) has Rob, Neville & Ross sooo focussed?



Ian alongside his immaculate HDT VK Commodore



Robert & his Cooper S.



Molly on security duty!!



Traditional Owners welcome



DJ's here – quick assume the position!



Jane & Tom in deep conversation...

Alan wisely says nothing!



Jim remembers when they were new!! Matt says “It is new..ish!!”



Steve's Corvette – Looks brilliant!

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Christmas Party at Lake Conjola

On 10th December, 50 members joined in Christmas festivities at the Lake Conjola Bowling Club. We all enjoyed a baked dinner, a delicious dessert & many a-laugh. Congratulations to all our prize winners!!(See page 2). A big thank you to Bev & Geoff Phillips for organising such a wonderful event for us all!



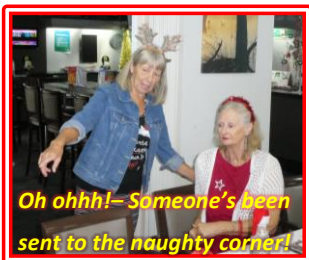
A great turn out for this year's Christmas lunch



3 Wise Men... and Steve!



Janice & John ready for a fun lunch



Oh ohhh!— Someone's been sent to the naughty corner!



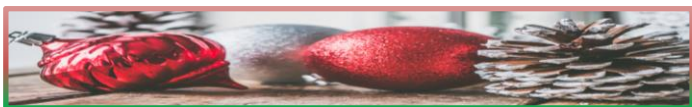
Why is it only ladies can wear antlers & look sensible?



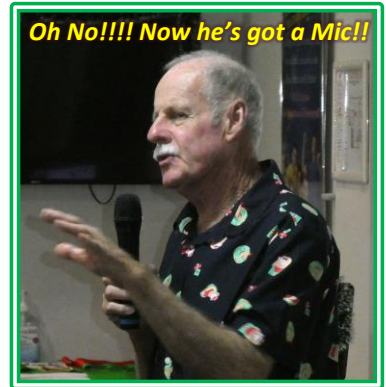
Poor Alan...he didn't get a gift



But then he found out he won a ride in a Subaru!



Rogero Pavarotti



Oh No!!!! Now he's got a Mic!!



Is Roger's singing winning over the ladies?... Nope!



This is what we call "The Brains Trust"



Jane tests out her "Cute Reindeer" look!



Bev with her "Christmas Elves"



Geoff clearly getting that beard ready for Christmas duty



Haw romantic... & then Nev made it so memorable



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Member News

On 8th November, the Club held its bi-monthly General meeting. Thank you to the 23 members available to attend.

Registrar Update

Our Registrar, Joe Bowdler has advised that the MUVCCC has **241 vehicles and 200 members**.

New Members

The MUVCCC is pleased to welcome 1 new member to the club:

Michael Bauer

We hope you enjoy the camaraderie and become a regular participant at club events. It's all about "Having Fun!!"

Thoughts for members who are unwell

As time progresses, we all may need some support. If you know members who may be unwell, please reach out to our Welfare Officer, Viv Burns so the club can provide some support.

In Memoriam

Vale – Yvonne Casey

On 31 October, Jim Casey's dear wife, Yvonne sadly passed away. Jim (Member #12) is a very longstanding member of the Club. Yvonne & Jim enjoyed participating in many club events over the years. They particularly enjoyed competing in Targa Tasmania, entering 6 rallies in their Yellow MG, which they found in Launceston. Yvonne & Jim formed many friendships and fond memories together. Yvonne will be sorely missed. Jim, you have our support.



The MG that Yvonne & Jim spent many happy times together

Club Merchandise

For members new and not so new, you can enhance your wardrobe with **MUVCCC Club Apparel**. The club has negotiated with Hip Pocket Workwear (Batemans Bay) for club members to purchase shirts and jackets with the club logo. You also have the option (for a fee) to have your name embroidered onto the selected garment!

Clothing includes short & long sleeve polo shirts, cotton shirts and jackets suitable for women & men. Members can choose a colour in either white or black, so as to provide some consistency in club apparel.

Contact details are:

Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety

7 Hughes Street, Batemans Bay NSW 2536

Ph 02 44726990.

Fax 02 44727624

Website:

<https://batemansbay.hippocketworkwear.com.au/>

Club items include:

Polo - Short sleeve

Polo - Long sleeve

Cotton Shirt

Winter Jacket

We are finalising costs, but feel free to check the Hip Pocket website.

Should you have any questions, please contact Tom Taylor (Merchandise Officer) who will be happy to assist you.

Editor - Christmas & New Year Message

To all club members, your families and those dear to you, wishing you a safe and happy Christmas and a healthy 2024.

If you are travelling, please be careful. Don't be in a rush to arrive, just arrive safely.

Looking forward to seeing you at events throughout 2024. *DF*



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Other Events – Wandie Woodchop!!

Words & Photos Courtesy of Colin Spicer

Back on Sunday 15 October, the Wandandian Woodchop & Car Show was held with a huge turn up of lovely cars. Club attendees included Colin Spicer in his MGB, Brenton Whitwell brought along his Mustang, Gary Whitwell showed his Ford Panel Van and Graham Sawyer took his Overlander. The car of the show was a yellow Ford F100 break down truck.



1930 Rolls Royce Phantom II – always impressive



Graham's immaculate Overlander!



AC Cobra looking perfect!



The Show Winner – Ford F100



A great day & a great turnout of vehicles

Bushranger Park, Nelligen

Photos courtesy of Jane McLennan

On Sunday 19th November, about 16 club members enjoyed a perfect day to travel to picturesque Nelligen on the banks of the Clyde River. By all reports, a wonderfully relaxing day was had by all as seen by the photos below!!



A good time had by all!!



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Coffee Break Time!

Here is this month's "Find the Word" puzzle. For this issue I was inspired by some of the vehicles of the 1930s.

Find the words listed below to reveal the solution from the remaining letters after all other letters are crossed off.

Inspired by the 1930s ...mostly

A	D	R	A	Z	I	W	N	A	M	L	L	I	H
W	R	S	L	A	D	N	O	G	A	L	T	R	O
A	K	T	F	G	N	E	O	R	T	I	C	V	R
R	O	D	A	S	S	A	B	M	A	H	S	A	N
T	V	U	A	T	T	O	S	I	S	T	Y	L	E
D	E	R	F	O	R	D	R	E	I	R	O	V	E
E	R	A	L	U	G	O	M	Y	N	A	D	E	S
C	H	N	W	T	S	O	E	N	G	I	S	E	D
O	E	T	M	G	R	E	B	N	E	S	E	U	D
R	A	A	B	H	G	E	A	M	R	U	S	T	J
D	D	L	C	A	N	W	R	A	I	T	H	W	A
I	Y	N	L	D	E	X	A	I	R	F	L	O	W
N	Y	E	I	M	M	A	C	U	L	A	T	E	A
S	D	X	E	R	E	L	S	Y	R	H	C	D	X



The solution is on page 2

Solution Hint: Think of the Stout Scarab

AIRFLOW	DYE	ROVE
ALFA	FORD	RUST
ARTDECO	FUSE	SYNCHROMESH
AXED	GAZ	SCARAB
BENDIX	GYROS	SEDAN
BMW	HILLMAN WIZARD	SINGER
CHRYSLER	HORN	STOUT
CITROEN	IMMACULATE	STYLE
CORD	ISOTTA	TATRA
DELAGE	JAWA	TWO
DESIGN	LAGONDA	VALVE
DKW	MOGUL	WAX
DUESENBERG	NASH AMBASSADOR	WRAITH
DURANT	OVERHEAD	

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Bunnings "Family Night" Event

Photos & Story courtesy of Jane McLennan

On 7 Dec, Bunnings Ulladulla invited the Club to attend to support "Family Night". A small number of vehicles were requested and members were able to supply 4 vehicles for customers to view. Thanks to all who participated.



Colin "You promised a jumping castle!" Dawn's reply "Get over it & smile for the camera!!"



Bits & Pieces



Don't forget, if you have a story or photos you would like to share (or any other feedback) please write to me at: editor@muvecc.org.au - Thanks

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Upcoming Events

Please consider our event organisers – If you wish to attend an event, please advise the Event Director of your participation as soon as possible, so as we can cater for all attendees - Thank You

Month	Event
January 2024	
Sunday 14th Time 11am	Annual Picnic Day and General Meeting Leaning Oak Conjola – 485 Lake Conjola Entrance Rd. Lake Conjola BBQ Meat provided by MUVCCC. <i>Attendees – BYO Chairs, Salads, Plates & cutlery.</i> Vehicle Registration – The Registrar will be available on this day.
Thursday 26 th Time - TBA	Australia Day Mollymook - Static Display. BYO Chairs
February	
Sunday 4 th Time: 10am-12pm	Wheel Nuts - Ulladulla Harbour
9, 10, 11 & 12 Feb Thursday - Sunday	Gnoo Blas Classic - Orange This is a 3-day event (plus travel) Accommodation and itinerary are being finalised
Wednesday 14 th Time: 10.30am	Valentines Day Lunch Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens - Departing Ulladulla 10.30am
Saturday 17 th	Raft Race Leaning Oak Static display - Contact - Kim Walsh 0407 783 918
Sunday 25 th Time: 9.30am	Tom Taylors Shed - Monkey Mountain Rd Morton <i>Attendees: Bring a small plate to share at morning tea. MUVCCC will provide a sausage sizzle lunch.</i> <i>BYO Chairs, plates & cutlery</i>
March	
Friday 1 st Sat 2 nd Time: TBA	Milton Show Day - Static Display Vehicle Registration – The Registrar will be available on this day.
Sunday 3 rd Time: 10am – 12pm	Wheels Nuts – Ulladulla Harbour
Wed 13 th Time: 7.30pm	General Meeting – Milton Ulladulla Bowling Club
Wed 20 th Meet: 10am	Coffee Run – Deli Café 7 Alaska St Cunjurong Point meet 10am BP Milton
Sunday 24 th Time: TBA	Sussex Inlet Classic Show & Shine – Details TBA and date to be confirmed

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