

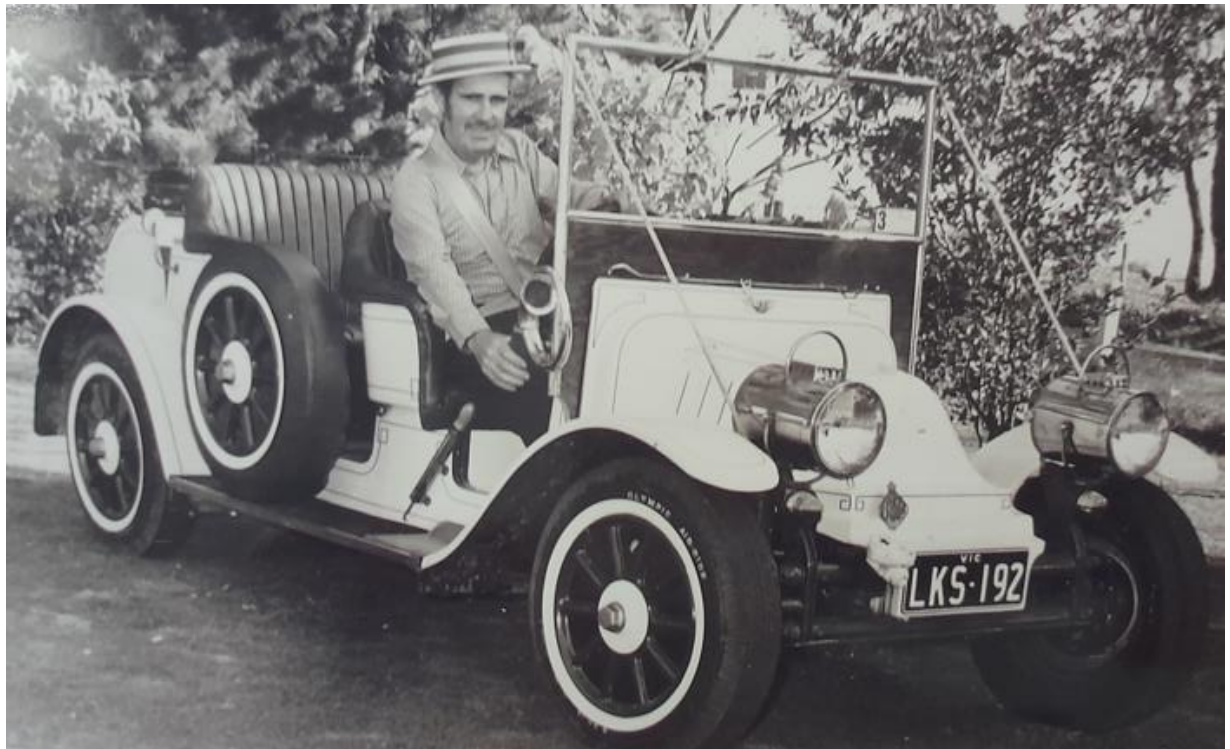
Coffs Splutter

May 2023

COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR
CLUB INC.

chvvcc@gmail.com

P.O. BOX 4191 COFFS HARBOUR JETTY 2450



Doug Neeson with one of his creations (see article within)

COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB

2022-2023

Life Members — Geoff Maunder, John Lansley, Des Drury, Bob Dixon & Keith Winkler

Committee	Name	Contact Number	Email
President	Geoff Maunder	0435 622 394	geoffrey@internode.on.net
Vice President	Graeme Kane	0417 236 277	glkane2@bigpond.com
Secretary	Graeme King	0406 363 710	gnking1@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Jan Ryan	0411 531 488	janryan.bfs@gmail.com
Events Convener	Gerry DeGabriele	0402 469 160	gdegabriele@gmail.com
Member	John Bojarski	0411 624 566	johnbojarski@bigpond.com
Member	Eric Andrews	0409 552 482	
Events Committee			
Convenor	Gerry DeGabriele	0402 469 160	gdegabriele@gmail.com
Member	Hal Murray	0448 883 244	hal.murray@bigpond.com
Member	Leigh Stephens	0413 481 361	lms111@bigpond.com
Member	Graeme Wright	0408 245 113	g.wright@ozemail.com.au
Member	Jim Fisher	0481 131 551	jmfinoz@gmail.com
Registration			
Registration Officer	Kevin Franklin	0439 192 850	kevoira@bigpond.com
Inspector	Kevin Franklin	0439 192 850	kevoira@bigpond.com
Inspector	Grant Rigby	0428 580 226	
Inspector	Merv Kennedy	0411 586 500	
Inspector	Eric Andrews	0409 552 482	
Inspector	Ian Blow	0406 123 600	
Newsletter Editor	Andrew Winter	02 6653 8672	alisonandandrew@bigpond.com
Property	Tony Carr	0432 123 692	
Publicity Officer	Andrew Winter	02 6653 8672	alisonandandrew@bigpond.com
Constitution Officer	Phil Bicknell	02 6653 6217	
Auditor	John Ryan	Appointed	
Public Officer	Phil Bicknell	02 6653 6217	

Club Meetings: General Meetings are held at the Boambee Hall at 7.00 pm on the first Thursday of each month except for January when no meeting is normally held.

Club Fees: A joining fee of \$5.00 applies. Annual fees are \$45.00 for a Single Membership, \$50.00 for a Family Membership, \$15.00 for a Junior Membership and \$10.00 for Associate Membership. Fees are due on 1st January each year for the calendar year. However, as membership of an approved car club is an RMS requirement for Concessional Registration of vehicles, annual fees for members seeking registration of cars in the following year are payable at the Rego Day, normally the third Sunday in November. For members joining the Club after 30 June each year, half annual fees will apply.

Club Newsletter: A full-colour copy of the Club's newsletter "Coffs Splutter" is emailed to all members with a valid email address registered with the Club. For an annual fee of \$15.00 (payable to the Treasurer) a member may arrange to have a printed B/W copy delivered by Australia Post to an address of their choice.

All articles appearing in "Coffs Splutter" are the sole responsibility of the author(s) as to matters of fact and veracity.

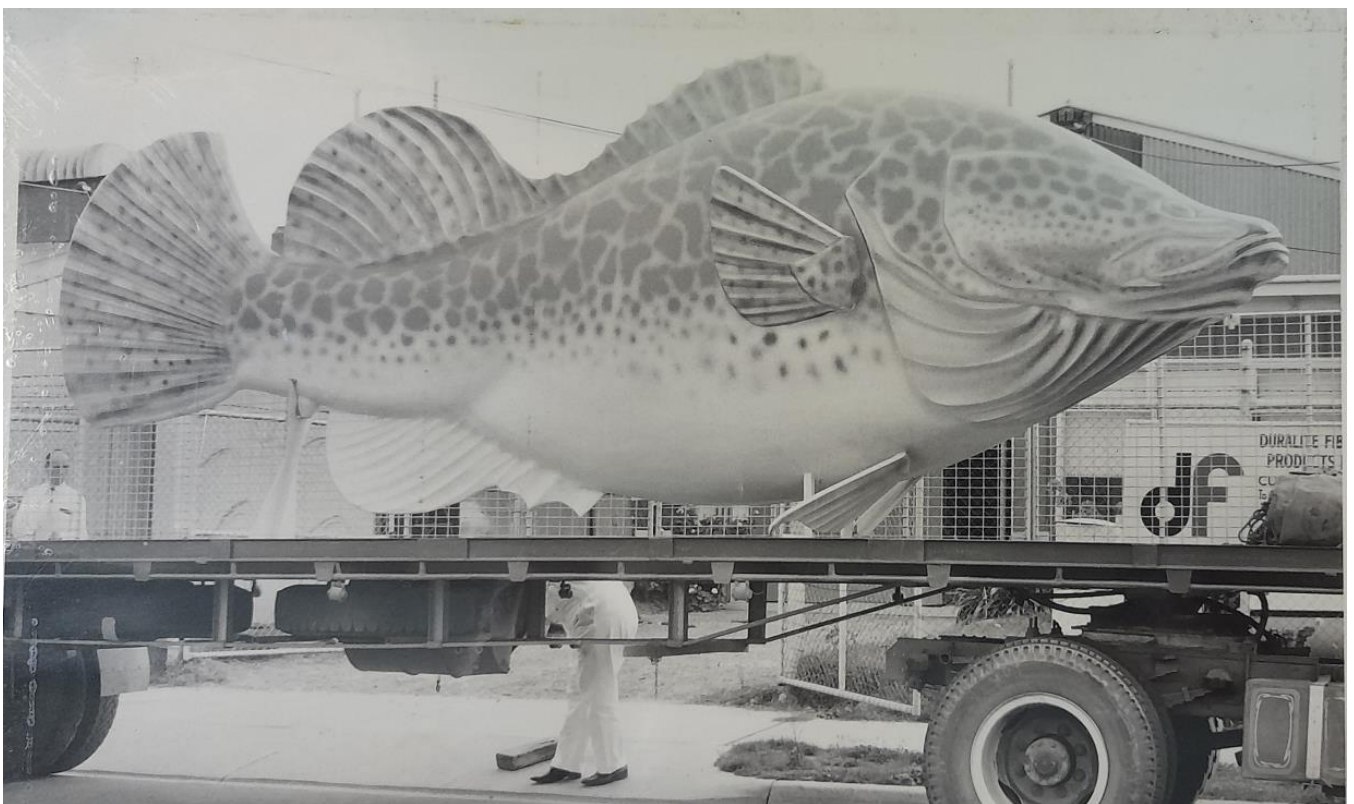
Doug Neeson, Fibreglass Artist Extraordinaire!

Ronis Dixon's father, Doug Neeson, was a very talented man. In this article I would like to outline a little of his history and some of the interesting motoring connections that form part of it.

I would like to sincerely thank Ronis for providing the photos and information contained here. Several years ago she put together a terrific display at the Coffs Harbour Collectors Fair, celebrating Doug's work and it received a lot of interest over that weekend.

Giant Murray Cod, Tocumwal NSW

This outsized Murray Cod measuring 21 feet in length, 7 feet in height and 5 feet across weighed 450 lbs and has an exterior made entirely of fibreglass reinforced plastic. The model was first sculptured in one piece in plaster and clay from which eight female moulds were cast. Fibreglass mouldings were then produced and jointed. A steel truss and strutting were used to stiffen the giant cod internally. Finally, a colouring was achieved by a spray technique using pigmented polymer resin. The finished article is a tribute to the versatile moulding characteristics of fibreglass reinforced plastics and great interest has been created in the area where the fish is a key tourist attraction for the town



The big Cod ready for it's trip to Tocumwal



The Cod in place....as it was



.....and as it appears today...

General Motors Holden (GMH) GTR-X – 1969/70

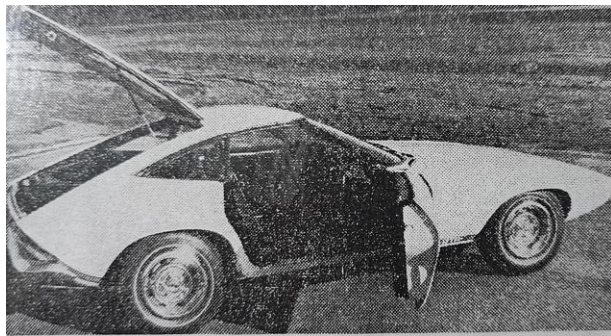
An exciting motoring project that Doug was involved in was production of the body for a concept vehicle for Holden known as the GTR-X. Even today, motoring websites refer to the GTR-X as one of the most attractive Australian-built cars ever produced.

Writing in the Age Newspaper in 1970, motoring journalist, Christopher De Fraga reported that:

“Holden’s new 123 m.p.h. fibreglass sports car drives as well as it looks. The low, wedge shaped body was styled in Melbourne and includes all necessary measures for safety necessary for Australia.....Driving the car around GMH’s Lang Lang Proving Ground, I found it to be the best balanced car they have produced...At 105 m.p.h it remained rock-steady...”

The fibreglass body, in which Doug was closely involved in producing, meant that GMH could keep tooling costs at a minimum. The car was planned to be produced at a rate of 1,200 vehicles per year, offered to the public at a price of \$3,700.

Unfortunately only 6 cars were produced and it seems that only one has survived (in a museum in Melbourne) but there are rumours that other cars are also in existence.



Two views of the GTR-X showing its attractive and very sporting lines

1909 Renault “Do it yourself” Reproduction (the Cover Car)

Doug produced this reproduction of a 1909 Renault whilst working from a factory in Windale Rd, Doveton. He did so in partnership with his brother-in-law, Ralph Malcolm, and Ralph’s sons Richard and Philip. The Renault was the first design and they hoped to produce other veteran car designs including a Model T Ford. The initial prototype cost \$13,000 to produce but the idea was to retail the cars either as a “do it yourself kit”, sold for \$1,025, in which the customer supplied the chassis and assembled the kit themselves, or you could purchase a fully assembled vehicle for \$2,500. The fully assembled vehicles were to be sold through the sole franchise, Avondale Motors in Dandenong, Victoria. I wonder if any of these vehicles still survive?



A 1909 Renault – very similar to the car Doug modelled his design on (source: Wikipedia)

Saturday Afternoon Run - Glenreagh Picnic Area Trip 1/4/2023

The run started with confusion. Leigh who was listed to lead rang me and said he was unable to do this as he was in Melbourne. I agreed to do it. Geoff was unable to come but realising Leigh was away nominated Hal but he was away too. When we met at the Airport, I realised I wasn't sure where we were meant to go so I managed to suggest/ ask/ coerce Carol to lead the way in the Elan. She willingly and ably performed her job and lead the way at a good pace for all to follow.



Despite the concerning skies and the forecast of rain the weather held and we had an enjoyable afternoon talking about Glen's single cylinder Brush and the many engineering quirks of this vehicle. We spoke about technology and the OSKO system of payment which helps when you are buying or selling a car privately. John explained about his woes with setting up the club's web page.

I pointed out the colours of the cars today to highlight how much better they are than the black, white and grey cars that populate our roads. They are worth preserving for their paint alone.

As usual Max provided a box of bananas and we all availed of the opportunity. Thanks Max!

On this occasion I did take some pictures so we can indeed see that the people were happy and smiling and the cars were clean and tidy.

Until next time. Cheers Gerry

Attending: Des Drury - Rover V8 (Red), Glenn Campbell with Jenny and Cooper - BMW Convertible (White), Carol Horner - Lotus Elan (Light Blue), Jim Fisher- Mercedes SL (Red), Gerry De Gabriele - Toyota Crown (Pale Green), John Bojarski and Laraine - Triumph Dolomite (Yellow), Max Eggins - Rover V8 (Blue)



SUNDAY 16 APRIL OUTING TO MYLESTOM BEACH AND ANCHOR'S WHARF URUNGA

Six of our club registered cars and one modern, met at the Coffs Airport rendezvous on a cloudy but warm day. We departed for Mylestom just after 0930 as a group, and arrived just after 1000. It was a busy morning at the General Store with about a ten-minute wait for coffees and sticky buns. It was worth the wait, as both items were of high quality. Waiting for us at the Store, were Colin Sutton and Graham Davey who joined the rest of the crew at a very picturesque spot close to the riverbank. Very entertaining and educational conversations emanated from the group, and a few of the world's problems, if not solved, at least received interesting suggested solutions. The tally at Mylestom was at best count, 19. A few unfortunately were unable to make it to Anchor's Wharf for lunch.

We headed for Anchor's Wharf around 1130, and found that our tables had been well prepared. Again, the number was 19, being made of those who arrived from Mylestom, plus several who proceed directly to the restaurant. Once again there was "high quality" verbal engagement and a few more problems solved. The prices at Anchor's may not be the lowest in the area, however the quality of the food was excellent, the staff helpful and friendly, and surroundings very pleasant. Just prior to our departure after lunch, small spots of rain began to fall, thus justifying those with convertibles and other fine machinery, not driving them on the day.

Thanks to Graham Davey for his photographic skills.

Regards

Graeme Wright



Various club cars at the Mylestom morning tea stop





**A happy looking crew at
Anchors Wharf, Urunga**

**(...and one friendly staff
member!)**



Coffee Morning Run to Irish Coffee Van then Bunker Gallery, Thursday 20th April 2023

7 members and 3 guests assembled at the airport start position. Eleven members went directly to the Irish Coffee van. Two members went directly to the Bunker Gallery

The weather was chilly and windy, so the total of 18 members and 3 guests at the coffee van arranged a windbreak of cars around the sitting area. The coffee was good, and a lot of conversations were had before people wandered over to the Bunker Gallery, where Bob and Ronis Dixon with their Singer were enjoying their drinks at the cafe. Those who attended the exhibition were pleased with the displays.

Attendees at the event were: Bon & Ronis Dixon – Singer, Ian and Carol Blow – Plymouth, Gerry de Gabriel – Toyota, Peter Bodiam and Nerida – Capri, Jim and Wendy Fisher – Mercedes, Phil Bicknell - Austin Healey, John and Kay - Mustang

Des Drury, John Williams, John and Lorraine Lansley, Graeme Weaire, Jan Ryan, Toon and 3 guests were all in modern cars.



MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COFFS HARBOUR
VETERAN , VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB - Thursday 4 May, 2023

Meeting opened: 1900 with Graeme Kane as A/Chair

Attendance: As per Attendance Book. (32)

Apologies: Geoff and Leonie Maunder, Andy and Leslie Carroll, Lorraine and John Lansley, Graham Weaire, John Bojarski, Glen Campbell, Max Eggins, Col Sutton

Guests: Nil

Minutes of last meeting: That they represent a true and correct record of the meeting of 6 April.

Moved: D Drury

Seconded : Hal Murray

Carried

Business arising from April 2023 Minutes:

- Post Office Box 4191 renewed.
- Venue for Urunga Rail Centenary changed to foreshore but number of participants required. 10 members indicated intention to attend on Sunday 11/6/23.

Correspondence In for April

- BCU upgrade – to note
- BCU new cheque book
- 7/4 Wauchope Truck and Machinery Show 8-9 July.
- 18/4 Anzac Day in Bellingen –confirm cars needed.
- 18/4 CHCC Invite to opening of Sawtell Reserve Hall. Tentatively Thursday 4/5/23
- 1/5 CHMC AGM on 9/6/23 at Wagga

Several Magazines emailed in and available to Members on request as follows:

Emails In: 7/4 OTHR newsletter; 8/4 Veteran Torque mag;2/5 Retroautos magazine on line,

Correspondence Out:

- Bellingen Show committee notice of intention to attend (pres)
- Urunga Rail Centenary – intention to attend. Numbers to be advised, (Pres)

Emails Out:

- Membership enquiry – Mike Savage 29 Chev .
- Bellingen Show committee

Moved: Graeme King

Seconded: H Murray

Carried

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer's report was tabled.

Moved: Jan Ryan

Seconded : G de Gabrielle

Carried

Presentation by

Event Reports

- Sat 1/4/23 Glenreagh Picnic area
- Sun 16/4/23 Anchors Wharf, Urunga (12 in attendance)
- Thurs 20/4/23 Coffee Run to Bunker Gallery. (19 attended)

Coming events

- Sun 6/5/23 Red Rock
- Sun 14//23 Bellingen Show
- Thurs 18/5/23 Coffee Run to Secret Garden



THE DINKUM OIL # 22

A drop from the Council of Heritage Motor Clubs to keep you going

April 2023

EVENTS

Our 2023 CHMC annual rally is being held at Wagga Wagga June 9th -12th. As this is the long weekend accommodation may be at a premium. Get your entry in at www.heritagemotoringcouncil.org.au/historic-motor-events.php.

- CHMC 2023 AGM will be at Armidale Saturday 28th October.
- CHMC is proud to be sponsoring trophies at the upcoming Pre 31 *Autumn Tour* .

REGISTRATION MATTERS

- Historic unmodified tractors remain eligible for HVS registration. There has been no change.
- The area code on the Certificate of Approved Operation does not restrict vehicle use. Vehicles can be used anywhere in NSW and on longer journeys interstate.
- Clubs are encouraged to distribute the Log Book Club Run Fact Sheet or share the link <https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-12/historic%20and%20classic%20vehicles%20log%20book.pdf> . This fact sheet addresses many misconceptions about Logbook use and Club Runs.
- CHMC made a submission to TfNSW on retrofitting of seat belts to pre 1967 vehicles. This topic was extensively discussed at the recent Historic & Classic Car Industry Working Group meeting with all peak bodies. It is our premise that aftermarket seat belts should be installed in a manner that affords improved occupant safety and simplifies any required certification.

*For CVS and HVS matters contact Peter Wright CHMC TfNSW Liaison,
RMSliason@heritagemotoringcouncil.org.au*

ADVOCACY

- A submission by CHMC has been made to the Dept.of Infrastructure (Comm), Vehicles Policy section regarding Draft ADRs, 109 Electric Power Train Safety and 110 Hydrogen Fuelled Vehicle Safety, ADR's that will regulate both new electric and hydrogen vehicle standards.
- CHMC has written to NRMA Veteran Vintage and Classic Insurance regarding issues reported by members concerning...1 Insurance for Historic Ex-Service vehicles(police, military, emergency etc.)...2 The changes NRMA introduced in the *Travel Care*. We are waiting for NRMA insurance's full explanation of what has caused a change in their policies on these two matters.
- Thank you to our clubs for renewing your affiliation with us and completing your Vehicle Census return. These place us in a strong position when representing Historic Motoring at State, National and International level.

More information about this, and other items of interest, can be found on Council's website:

www.heritagemotoringcouncil.org.au
or www.facebook.com/CHMCNSW



Nomination Form

2023-2024 CHVVCCC Committee

Position nominated for:

Nominee

Nominated by.....(Name and signature)

Seconded by..... (Name and signature)

Signature of nominee.....

Date / / 2023

CLUB REGALIA

<i>Item</i>	<i>Price</i>
<i>CHVVCC Car Badge (2 holes)</i>	<i>\$15 ea.</i>
<i>Car Badge blue</i>	<i>\$ 5 ea.</i>
<i>CHVVCC Club Ribbon</i>	<i>\$10 ea</i>
<i>Name Badge</i>	<i>\$ 1 ea</i>
<i>CHVVCC Stickers</i>	<i>\$ 0.50 ea</i>



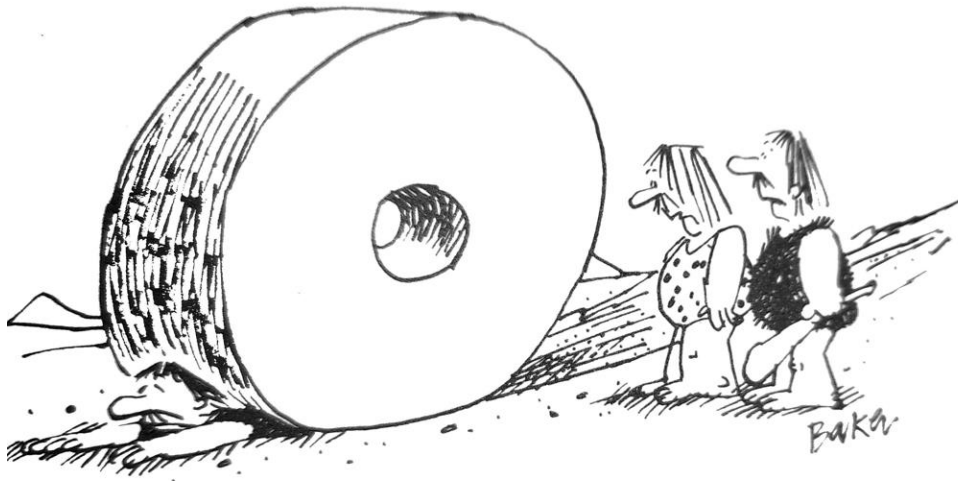
Caption Competition !!

(photo taken at Glenreagh run)

Love to hear your caption ideas for this photo
(submitted by a member who shall remain nameless!)

Editor's suggestion: "After nearly 20 years of being associated with this club...Laraine has finally gone bananas!"





“He came rushing up to say he’d just invented something or other and then that rolled over him.”

Where is it??? Last month’s photo was what is known today as the Coast Hotel on the Highway just south of Moonee Street. Interestingly, alongside the Hotel is an establishment offering a daily motor service to Grafton. Model T Fords are the main cars shown.

Now...the locality of this month’s photo should be fairly obvious, but I just had to include this beautiful photo. I love the Golden Fleece sign (would be worth a few dollars today I suspect!). Does anyone recall taking their car for servicing or repairs here (or maybe parents doing so)?



(Image from Coffs Local History – remember when Facebook page)

COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB

All runs depart from Coffs Airport, Aviation Drive, Coffs Harbour
(100m south of Dakota Drive intersection – Note please use
northern entrance off Hogbin Drive),

- 1st Saturday outings depart **1.30pm**. Please take afternoon tea.
- 3rd Sunday outings depart **9.30am**. Please take morning tea and lunch.
- 3rd Thursday coffee runs departs **9.30am**.

Please check individual run details for any variations.

- If you are not meeting at the designated start or running late, please notify the run organiser. just in case there is a change to the run plan, or the club needs to provide café attendance numbers.
- Please drive with consideration to other road users (so we do not create queues behind us).
 - Leave a reasonable distance between vehicles.
 - When coming to a turn, ensure the car behind you is aware of the turnoff.
 - **H registered vehicles must have the "Permit to Operate" in the vehicle at all times.**
 - **H registered vehicles should carry a copy of this Approved Events page on all runs.**

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

CLUB APPROVED EVENTS. NO LOGBOOK ENTRY REQUIRED

MAY 23		
Thursday 4 th	Club Meeting	Geoff 0435 622 394
Saturday 6 th	Afternoon run to Red Rock	Gerry 0402 469 160
Sunday 14 th	Bellingen Show	
Thursday 18 th	Coffee Run – Secret Garden	Graeme 0408 245 113
Sunday 21 st	Macksville Pub	Jim 0481 131 551
Sat 27 th & Sun 28 th	Coffs Collectors Fair, Norm Jordan Pavilion, Coffs Showground	Gerry 0402 469 160
JUNE 23		
Thursday 1 st	Club Meeting	Geoff 0435 622 394
Saturday 3 rd	Afternoon run to Moonee Beach	Hal 0448 883 244
Sunday 11 th	Urunga Rail Centenary	Hal 0448 883 244
Thursday 15 th	Coffee Run – Coffs Nursery	Leigh 0413 481 361
Sunday 18 th	Changeover Dinner, Seaview Tavern, Woolgoolga	Hal 0448 883 244
JULY 23		
Saturday 1 st	Urunga Reserve	Jim 0481 131 551
Thursday 6 th	Club Meeting	Geoff 0435 622 394
Sunday 16 th	Mullaway for coffee then Amble Inn for lunch	Hal 0448 883 244
Thursday 20 th	Coffee run to Bellingen Butter Factory	Leigh 0413 481 361