

# Celebrating 40 Years



belonging to John and Judy had difficulties descending Mt Alexander when the throttle return spring inconveniently broke. Full speed in 3<sup>rd</sup> gear for a short while until the situation was brought under control! Another positive aspect of old vehicles was that John was able to lengthen the remains of the spring, reattach it and return safely to Castlemaine under his own steam.

The Anniversary dinner at the Cumberland Hotel was well attended, with 26 in total comprising members, family and guests. John gave a mercifully short speech and we all tucked into our delicious food.

During the meal we conducted a diverse quiz, with the prize of a gift hamper awarded to Kelvin and Heather Hughes. Our RGCC guests had been given the choice of abstaining or playing for fun but ineligible to win. Naturally they were the stand-out quiz champions!

Every member and guest was given a souvenir laminated replica of the first newsletter of the HCCV to take home with them.

We are also members of the Castlemaine Historic Vehicle Club, and we invited them to join us for the Display Day on 25<sup>th</sup> October.

So early on Sunday morning we headed out to Mucklefest at Muckleford for a joint display of historic cars featuring cars from both the CHVC and the HCCV. There was a strong contingent of diverse vehicles from the CHVC. The Classic

Car paddock also had representatives from the Echuca District Historical Car Club and the Bendigo Sporting Car Club. One of the Echuca members bought his Humber down for the day and was stunned to find all the other Humbers on display, so he joined us as well.

We were absolutely delighted to have, at one count, 23 Humbers on show spanning the years from 1927 to 1967. This was one of the biggest Victorian collection of Humbers since our 1998 celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Humber, at which we managed to gather 96 Humbers from full running order to towed on the back of a trailer.

On a delightfully sunny afternoon, Saturday 24 October, the early arrivals met in the carpark of the Railway Hotel in Castlemaine. Hans Paas led a contingent of Humbers on a local guided tour of the district. We visited the historic Oak Plantation at Harcourt, drove in convoy up to the summit of Mt Alexander, and several of the group then went on to the Forest Creek Historic Gold Diggings.

Roy Strange (who proudly drives the Superior 1952 MKIII Super Snipe), lived in Guildford for over 20 years and did not know that the Oak Plantation existed. The beautiful 1927 Humber

# Celebrating 40 Years

The highlight of the weekend for us was the magnificent historic steam train ride from Muckleford to Castlemaine and return – first class of course! We had a wonderful ride in style and comfort, with wine and cheese, black-tie service and views of the rolling (but extremely dry) countryside. We have been waiting to make the trip ever since Jeff Dorman, one of the restorer's of the 'Macedon' Pullman carriage, gave his very entertaining talk to the CHVC.

Following a picnic lunch back at Muckleford, people dispersed to enjoy the various attractions in the area including a display put on by the Mount Alexander Vintage Engine Club and the Maldon Vintage Machinery Museum. There was some dust raised by the Clydesdale demonstration and somehow, sadly, we missed the tractor pull. There was also a blacksmithing demonstration, musical entertainment and a few local stalls.

Funny how the weather can change so quickly in Spring. We started off with 1° and just after lunch it was 31°. The very popular ice cream van was doing a roaring trade!

Thank you Hans Paas for the very enjoyable tour on Saturday. We love this part of the country and never tire of an excuse to drive around it, especially when we can show it off to others!

Thank you Lorraine & David Aplin for your help with the display, and to Hans and Michael for keeping a watchful eye on the Humbers during the train trip.

On behalf of the HCCV, we would like to extend our thanks to the CHVC and everyone who joined us to make the display day so memorable and enjoyable.

Ray and Lotte Linden



## QUIZ CORRECTION!

At the 40th Anniversary dinner, one of the quiz answers was wrong wrong wrong! I'm afraid I trusted an interesting random 'fact' from the internet without double-checking.

The question was:

*Where are Chinese Gooseberries from?*  
*Answer: New Zealand (Kiwifruit).*

The question SHOULD have been:

*Where are Kiwifruit from?*  
*Answer: China (Chinese Gooseberry)*

Fortunately, it had no bearing on the final outcome, but my apologies for any confusion!!

*Also Celebrating*  
**40 Years**

**Happy Anniversary to:**

Bendigo Swap Meet; Honda

Goldwing; VW Golf; colour TV in Australia; Rocky Horror Picture Show; Microsoft; PMG splits to Telecom/Australia Post; Fawlty Towers; Victoria abolishes capital punishment; Whitlam dismissal.

*Celebrating*  
**40** *Years*

Friday, November 6, 2015-11

# WEEKENDER

Castlemaine Mail



**Eat**

at  
The Butcher's  
Cafe

page  
**17**



**Gardening**

page  
**12** with ASQ

LIVE • LOCAL • LIFESTYLE



DISPLAY: 23 Humpers were on show at Muckfest.

## Humber Car Club rolls into town

### History of the Humber

The Humber originated in the United Kingdom. The British manufacturer was founded by Thomas Humber in Sheffield in 1868 and originally made bicycles.

In 1889 the company began seriously looking at motorised transport and went on to make motorcycles and cars.

In 1899 the first Humber car - the three and a half horse power Phaeton was built at Beeston.

Renowned auto engineer Louis Coatalen designed the Vulturette for Humber which first appeared in 1901. This was followed by the Humberette which sported a tubular frame and five horse-power single-cylinder engine.

Larger cars came in the shape of the 1902 four cylinder 12 horse power, which was soon followed up by a three cylinder nine horse power and a four cylinder 20 horse power model.

By this time the car production was concentrated at a new factory in Coventry, which coincidentally was situated close to fellow car makers Hillman.

After 1905 the smaller engine cars were dropped and Humber focused on its staple 10/12 horse power models and the larger 16/20 horse power model. In 1907 they added a Humber 15 horse power.

In 1906 designer Coatalen moved to rival Hillman. In 1929 the companies merged.

From 1930 the two manufacturers were taken over by the Rootes Group which is also synonymous with cars such as the Chrysler. The Humber line included the Scribe, Hawk, Pullman, Audax and final model the Arrow which rolled off the production line in 1976.

Lisa Dennis

The Humber Car Club of Victoria Inc visited the Castlemaine region recently.

The club was formed in October 1975 and members wanted to do something special for their 40th anniversary.

Local members, Lotte and Ray Linden of Castlemaine know just how much our area has to offer and proposed to fellow members that they hold a special anniversary event involving a relaxing weekend in the district to coincide with Muckfest.

Humber members from as far away as Warrnambool, Rose-dale, Melbourne, Tyabb, Albury, Echuca, Linton, Euroa, Ballarat, Gisborne and Trentham participated.

On Saturday, October 24, another local club member, Hans Paas led a contingent of Humpers drivers on a local guided tour. The group visited the Oak Plantation at Harcourt, drove in convoy up to the summit of Mount Alexander, and several of the group then went on to explore the Forest Creek Historic Gold Diggings.

On Saturday evening, 26 club members and guests gathered at the Cumberland Hotel for dinner.

Club president, John Washbourne gave a short speech and participants enjoyed a motoring themed quiz during their meal.

The following day the group headed out to Muckfest for the Muckfest event and the Humber Club's 40th Anniversary Display Day.

Lotte and Ray said they were absolutely delighted to have 23 Humpers on show, including one dating back to 1927.

Members then enjoyed the magnificent historic steam train ride from Muckfest to Castlemaine and return - first class of course!

"We had a wonderful ride in style and comfort, with wine and cheese, black tie service and the rolling countryside," Lotte said.

"Following a picnic lunch, people dispersed to enjoy the various attractions in the area, with many members staying on until Monday before heading home," she said.

"We would like to thank the Cumberland Hotel, Muckfest organisers and VGR for making this a memorable weekend celebration for the club," Ray said.



ON THE ROAD: Members head to Harcourt to explore the Oak Forest.

# Celebrating 40 Years



## FOUR SEASONS 40th CELEBRATIONS

Every day was either windy dusty raining sunshine

It was Spring and temperatures ranged from 1c to 31c

There were 21 Snipes and Hawks but Vogues? Sceptres?  
(hmm... we counted two Vogues Roy, but sadly no Sceptres! ~ed)

There was also another reason to call the event a 'Spring' event as 3 cars were affected by springs not working. A 1927 Humber (the only true Humber there) accelerated down Mt Alexander in 3rd gear with the pedal to the metal causing some stress - a Hawk had one leaf too many - and a Ballarat car broke its accelerator spring without leaving home!

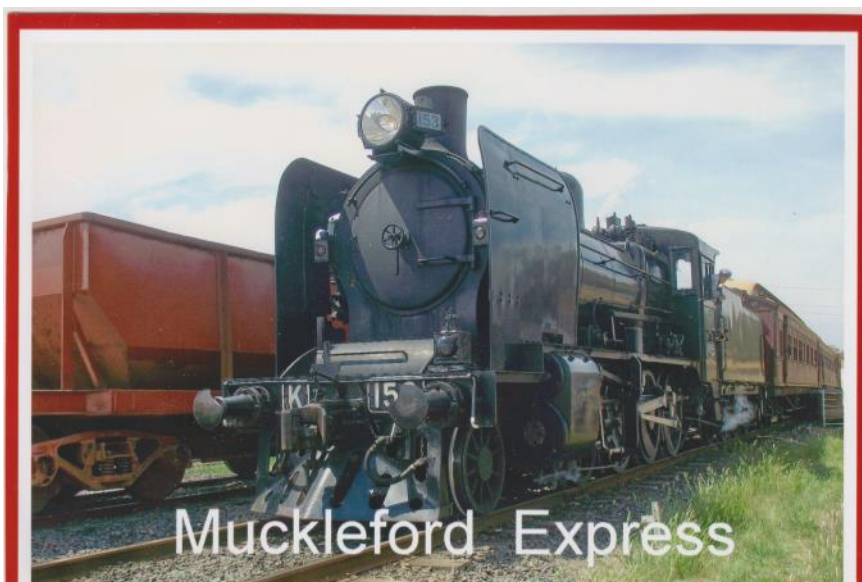
Cold mornings caused slow starting for some with the J n J car needing 25 attempts before it went! The climb up Mount Alexander caused a few bonnets to be lifted but the best of the bunch was the 1927 with a 4 cylinder motor which showed impressive performance both up and down!

Stranges' SSNIPE Mk3 highlighted, front and centre, the **40 Years Celebration Badge** resplendent with the Union Jack as a background taking pride of place on the badge bar. We were very pleased to have our design chosen and appreciated the award of #1 badge at the dinner.

- **Trains - Cars - Food- Quiz -**  
- **Venue - Events -**

Congratulations to Ray and Lotte for their organisation of the whole event which has been judged to have been one of our best events.

The Trivia Quiz was by no means "Trivial" and designed to be a challenge. The Rootes Group Guests had a remarkable correct total - and well done - (however it was done) but our very own Kelvin won the day legally!



Question: What do you get if you cross a Ford with a Humber?  
Answer: WET WHEELS of course!

Catering was excellent, as was the venue, and the OYO system meant we were all happy with our choices!

All the participants thought the train ride in the deluxe First Class Carriages was a real highlight - and the personal Stewards waiting on us was really the icing on the cake.

Contributed by Jan and Roy Strange

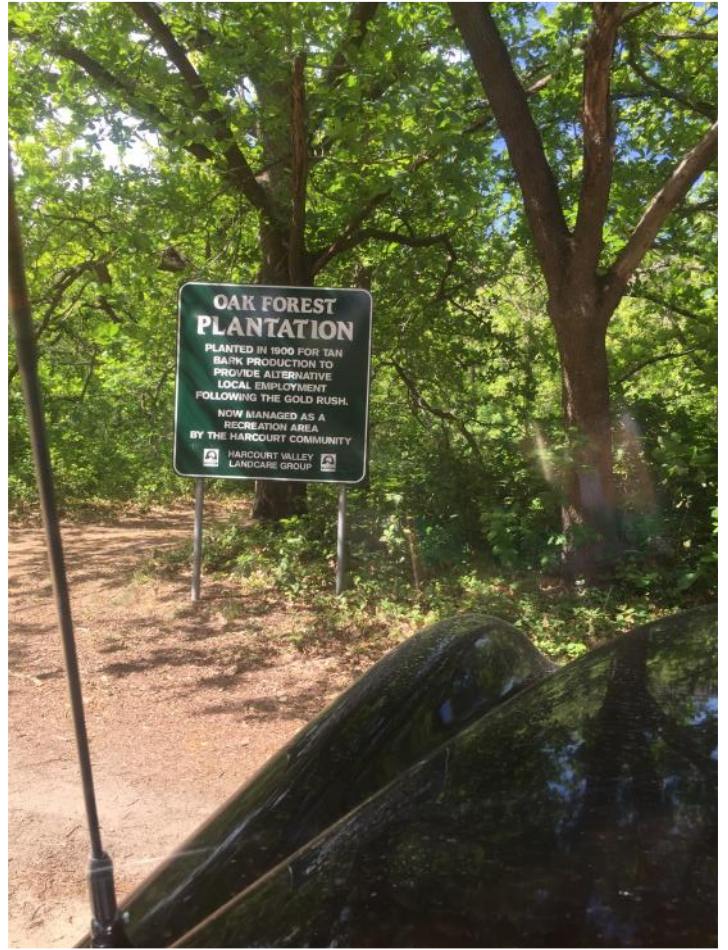
# *Celebrating* **40** *Years*

DAY 1  
Saturday 24 October 2015  
**Railway Hotel Car Park**



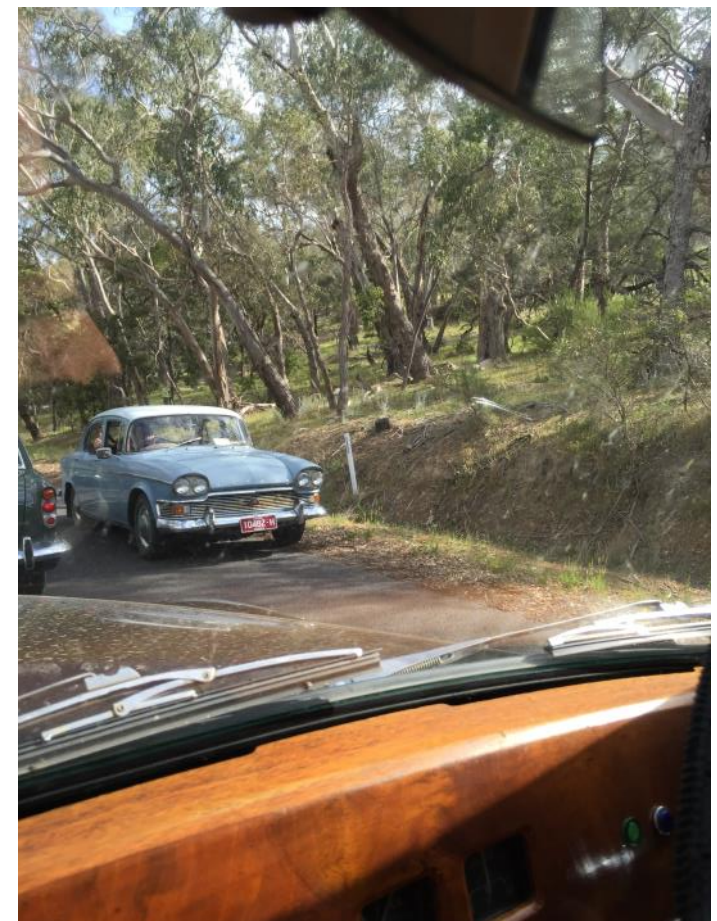
# *Celebrating* **40** *Years*

DAY 1  
Saturday 24 October 2015  
**Oak Plantation Harcourt**



# *Celebrating* **40** *Years*

DAY 1  
Saturday 24 October 2015  
**Mt Alexander Hillclimb**



# *Celebrating* **40** *Years*

DAY 1  
Saturday 24 October 2015  
**Cumberland Hotel Dinner**



# *Celebrating* **40** *Years*

DAY 2  
Sunday 25 October 2015  
**Mucklefest, Muckleford**



# *Celebrating* **40** *Years*

DAY 2  
Sunday 25 October 2015  
**VGR Historic Steam Train**

