

Mucklefest 2019

Day One 5th October

I discovered that my twin brothers Michael and John were at Mucklefest and decided to take the ten minute trip from Castlemaine to check it out late on Saturday morning. Michael was there in his 1924 B2 Citroen Roadster and John in the 1929 Chrysler Tourer that with the help of friend Cookie had recently had an engine overhaul.

I was initially drawn to see a 1964 P5 3 Litre Rover, one of some 17 vehicles brought by Hein Otten of Walmer. I was interested as I have a 1963 P5 awaiting the arrival of a rear engine main seal from England. This is the last thing needed for the motor to be put back into the car following a total engine rebuild.

Hein showed us a 1901 Motor bicycle (I am kicking myself for forgetting to take a photo) built by his grandfather in 1901 in Breda, Holland (the town of my birth). The company only changed hands recently and has been building powered bicycles for over a century. As most people would know, the Netherlands is big on bicycles with them being the preferred transport of royalty there. He also brought a 1937 Nash that has won a national prize for best original

car. It really is in stunning almost incredible condition.



Michael's B2 is very primitive and really performs more like its veteran forbears. Initial braking is by operation of a handbrake lever, followed up by a foot brake that acts on the gear-box. If you brake suddenly the other way





around you are likely to break something. The car has a firm ride to say the least and cruises nicely at 60-70kph.

More cars arrived after us and a wonderful little teardrop caravanette owned by a young woman who was taking it out on its first outing. The laminex in the rear kitchenette was unmarked. Again, I am kicking myself that I did not take photos of this amazing little mobile camper.

Lots of classic and vintage cars to see, stationary engines and a tractor pull. I really liked an

early Mark II Jaguar with one of the nicest wood fascias I have ever seen, driven by a young man who could not have been much older than 30 - a good sign for the historic car movement.

My brothers are off to Trentham tomorrow for their big annual Sunday market and car display that takes place adjacent to the lovely old railway station. We seem to be very fortunate in Central Victoria with the old car movement turning out early and often.

Hans Paas

