

Veteran Car Club's Pre-1905 Pioneers Run Ballarat

1-2 October 2022

John and I were fortunate to be able to make a quick trip to Ballarat on Sunday to deliver some very special car parts to one of the Veteran Car Club members involved in the 4th Pre 1905 Pioneers Run. This was a lovely opportunity to see these pre-1905 cars and motor cycles in action.

As some of you know we have a great interest in veteran and vintage cars, owning one or two ourselves. The chance to see these pre 1905 vehicles was something rather special. Particularly interesting was the appearance of a 1903 Humberette. Unfortunately, despite lots of willing assistants it stubbornly refused to run. We learned later that it had been out of action for some years and really needed to have some extra TLC to get it going again. We understand it was really only brought for show, rather than to take part in the weekend runs. Nevertheless it was great to see this unusual car and part of the heritage of the Humber Marque before Rootes Group took over some 28 years later.

Other vehicles that particularly took our eye were the 1901 Argyll 5hp and the 1900 Victoria Combination Voiterette. Many of these cars and motor-cycles show the transition from push bikes to the modern motor bikes and cars of today. Something that we should never lose sight of.

These vehicles and motorbikes along with all other veteran and vintage cars should never be rele-

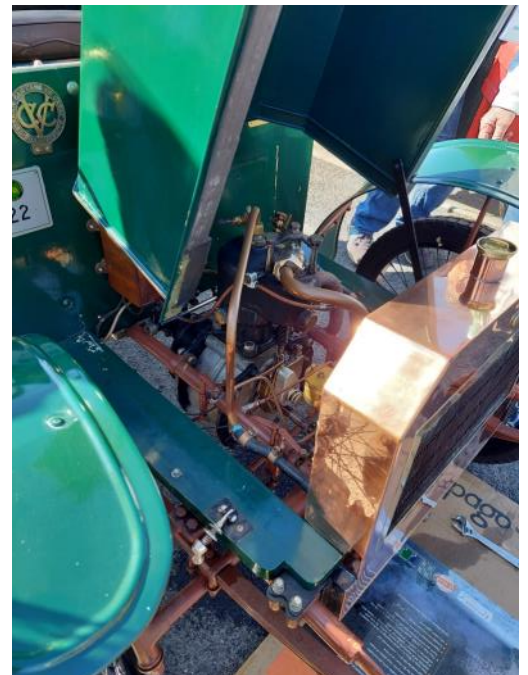
gated to just static museum pieces but rather kept part of our mobile heritage. As such, they should be made available for all to enjoy and see them in action.

What a lovely sunny day it was for this rally and we had a number of photo opportunities that we made the most of. The rally was held on the Saturday and Sunday with most of the cars and motor cycles travelling around 40 km each day. It was a most enjoyable day well worth the journey to see these now rare cars and motorcycles.

Judy Lewis and John Washbourne



1903 Humberette



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1904 Oldsmobile



1899 De Dion Bouton Vis a Vis



1900 Victoria Combination Voiturette



1904 De Dion Bouton Q



1901 Argyll 5hp



1902 Thomas Model 17

