

Invitation Ride-in-it-Day on Sunday 4 February 2023

What a great day! The Ride-in-it-Day organised by the Daimler Lanchester Club was one of the best outings that I've have been involved in. There was a fine collection of vehicles from the Daimler, Armstrong Siddeley, Alvis and Humber Car Clubs. The idea of being able to select a vehicle to have a ride in with the owner and chat about the car and its history while travelling in it was fantastic.



I left home in light rain but after travelling down through Ferntree Gully it started to clear. I arrived at the Vintage Drivers Club rooms in Nunawading and already a group of interesting cars were lined up. After registering HSS111 for the event I had a good look at the cars, picking out which ones that I would like a ride in, I would have liked to have ridden in all of them.

My first selection was an Alvis with a beautiful coupe body, no B pillar, I squeezed into the rear seat but once there it was very comfortable. The owner gave a detailed history of his car as we went around the roads of Nunawading. The 2nd car was a Daimler Majestic Major Limousine, I rode in the back on my own, what a vast amount of room I had, feet stretched out, pre-

tending to be someone special, the owner certainly showed what a powerful car it is with the 4.5l engine giving it a good turn of speed. Next was an MGC, not much room for me in this one, lucky the sunroof was open, so my head wasn't push up against the roof. A fun car to ride in.

Next it was my turn to take some people for a run in HSS111, a pleasure it was to show off the Humber Super Snipe Series 3, a more sedate ride I think.

Then I had a ride in Jon Miller's magnificent Bentley, four of us roaring down Springvale Road, what a machine. What fun, I imagined that I was Toad from Wind in the Willows racing around the roads.

Now was a car that I have wanted to have a ride in for some time, Ray and Lotte's Mighty Mark 4 Super Snipe, a very comfortable and impressive car, a credit to the both. Another drive in my Super Snipe, then a ride in a Daimler 250, a better example of one of my favourite cars I have not seen. Smooth and with the burble of the 2.5L V8 I very much enjoyed this ride.

The last car I rode in was a Daimler Dart or SP250 as it is also known as, a sports car with plenty of go and wind in the hair (if I had some) experience.

I must commend the Daimler Lanchester Club for a wonderful day. They intend to run another event next year with an invitation to the Wolseley and Riley Clubs to join those from this year.

Come and have a ride in a wonderful selection of cars, you will really enjoy it.

Rod Burchill

The Daimler Lanchester Club of Vic Inc Invitation Ride-in-it-Day Sunday 4 February 2023

Sunday morning and the alarm was set for 6:30am (groan...). Even with all our forward planning we didn't get away until around 8am, and after a very pleasant and uneventful cruise down the Calder and battling Melbourne traffic even on a Sunday morning we arrived at the Vintage Drivers Club rooms in Nunawading at 9:58am - 2 minutes to spare! MM4 never missed a beat.

Amongst all the amazing cars on show we were delighted to see 2 more Humbers, belonging to John Docker and Rod Burchill, and Jon Miller drove his family's magnificent Bentley.

My one and only drive was with Jon in the Bentley - there are not enough superlatives to describe the thrill of being in this wonderful beast. My creaky old bones had a bit of trouble getting in and out, but once seated I didn't want it to end. I think the closest feeling I can relate it to is riding a motorbike (which I haven't done since the 1970s), but without the helmet. Now I know why the lady motorists of bygone years always had a large scarf tied tightly around their hair.

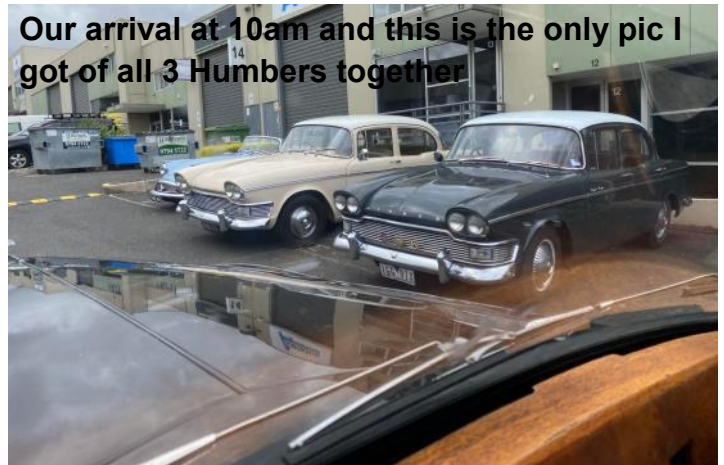
Ray chauffeured several rides in MM4 and he managed a ride in the Daimler Majestic Major Limousine. In the distant past we owned a Daimler Majestic Major for several years but the restoration proved to be too great a task for us, so we sold it on. I wonder where it is now?

It was a delight to catch up with organiser and former HCCV member Bill Bowker. He did an incredible job of putting the event together after so many Covid-related postponements. First drive for Bill was in MM4 with his grandson.

It was such a fun day, well organised and well catered for. All the driving was around a large block so that you were only turning left, even with Melb traffic it was not onerous or difficult.

We would be happy to do this event again - it was brilliant and lots of fun!

Lotte and Ray



Rod Burchill and me again



John Docker and me (yes, again!)



Ray Linden and the Mighty Mark IVB (and some annoying camera hog...)



