



June 2018

The **HUMBERETTE**

National Humber Rally 2018



Rally Roy - the TV Star!

National Rally 2018

"Riverina Autumn Ramble"

Humbers and Rootes Group Marques

7th to 11th May 2018

Congratulations to our hard-working Rally Committee: Jan and Roy Strange, Jan Beattie and Judy Finch, and David and Lorraine Aplin on a mighty job well done.



*Designed Developed Discussed
Driven Displayed Detoured Done
~ over a period of two years ~
by a Committee of 5*

Overheard while Rallying (no names and no packdrill): three or two truckies travelling along rapidly on a quiet Beechworth byway when a radio crackled *"Rubber Duckies Repeat Rubber Duckies - we have a convoy from out of the past led by a compact red vehicle driven by a couple of enthusiastic automobilists"*.

The somewhat ubiquitous vehicle laboriously climbed its way up one of the longest hills it has ever encountered and asked what's it like going back down? There should have been an Award for Meritorious Performance! It did gain a slice of the TV coverage along with a Citroen which gate-crashed the Public Display.

Wirthless Circus made an appearance with an unusual compliment of Tiggers and Tigers with Poo Bear along with fake Taxi plates and roof rack full of empty cases.

Notoriety for "over-the-top" seems to follow its owner everywhere.

Not content with aiming to win the Hard Luck Award the MM4B wet its paint and wouldn't harden nor start and never left the garage so the intrepid owners set off in the Civic minded Humber with two ancient Humber bicycles dangling/ hanging on the rear.

They also had thoughts of driving the raffle prize home (electric Mercedes convertible).

Our two hardworking ladies had 'new' everything installed - at an undisclosed price - and set off early to be there early but spent most of the day

on the roadside near Seymour only to watch their car loaded on to the tow truck back to Melbourne. They didn't win the Hard Luck Award either!

Anonymous RReporter





HUMBER & ROOTES VEHICLES 2018 NATIONAL RALLY

Autumn River Ramble

7-11 May 2018



56 car enthusiasts from Victoria (27), NSW (14), SA (8), Queensland (4) and 3 from New Zealand enjoyed the hospitality of Wodonga and surrounding area from 7-11 May. Participants relished the camaraderie that such an event provides and liked the opportunity of touring the city of Wodonga and environs, as many had not visited the area before.

Monday 7: Meet & Greet, including a sumptuous afternoon tea, Roy's Trading Table (where many a treasure was acquired), and where old acquaintances were renewed and new friends made.

Tuesday 8: Drive to Yackandandah, Beechworth, Chiltern.

Evening BBQ dinner with Roy's cryptic puzzles and auction.

Wednesday 9: Show and Shine at Junction Square in the city of Wodonga. Congratulations to Daryl and Jeannette Maclagan for their "Best Car of the Show" award.

Thursday 10: Drive to Wahgunyah, Rutherglen, Corowa.

Presentation Dinner at the Commercial Club Albury including Lotte's famous Humber quiz

Friday 11: BBQ breakfast and farewell

Our Rally engendered quite a deal of interest from the Albury/Wodonga locals, from the Park Hall Village where our Meet and Greet was held to Junction Square, which was visited by hundreds. Car enthusiasts at our Show came up to our participants for a chat about cars in general and Rootes Group vehicles in particular. Our Humbers, Singer, Hillman and Humber Bicycles were a real hit!

25 cars from the local 'Murray Heritage Motorists' car club joined us at this event - they not only added to our display but they contributed volunteers for marshalling and judging.

Altogether we had 60 local volunteers from the Wodonga community help with the staging of

our Rally and we really appreciated their help and enthusiastic support. We had great media attention from the local Channel 7 TV station and an enthusiastic welcome from the Mayor, Cr Anna Speedie of Wodonga City Council. The council was a major sponsor of our event and not only donated \$1000 towards our event but they provided the fantastic facility of Junction Square, where our display was held, free of charge.

We had two days touring around the district visiting the historic towns of the district. On Tuesday we drove to Yackandandah, Beechworth and Chilton and on Thursday, Rutherglen and its wineries, then Corowa. Our drives were through picturesque rural surrounds made a picture by the beautiful autumn colours.

On Tuesday evening we had a casual night catered by The Rotary Club of Wodonga West at the Felltimber Community Centre. The meal was fantastic along with the delightful wines courtesy of Zilzie wines. Roy ran a fun auction and a good night was had by all.

Thursday night was our Presentation night and was sponsored by the City of Albury who contributed to the awards and the venue costs and we are grateful for their \$500 sponsorship.

Our venue for the Friday's Farewell breakfast was changed due to the cold mornings and the fear of rain so we again had a fine meal provided by the Rotary Club but in the warm environment of the Felltimber Community Centre.

Sponsors were very generous with their financial and in-kind help, but our largest single sponsor was the RACV who donated \$1500 as well as in kind support to the administration and running costs of this event. Because of the generosity of the sponsors our participants enjoyed a great value event and enjoyed the 2018 National Rally.

David Aplin

Day One - Meet & Greet and Rally Registration Park Hall Village in Wodonga



Rally Bags full of goodies, memorable Memorabilia Display, \$2 trading table (or \$5 if you had nothing to trade) - bargains galore, I managed to snaffle some good ones!

Delicious continuous tea, coffee, sandwiches, fruit & bikkies all afternoon meant no-one went hungry - see Jan (right) with another trayful. Thanks go also to the local volunteers (below right) who guided the cars to safe parking spots.

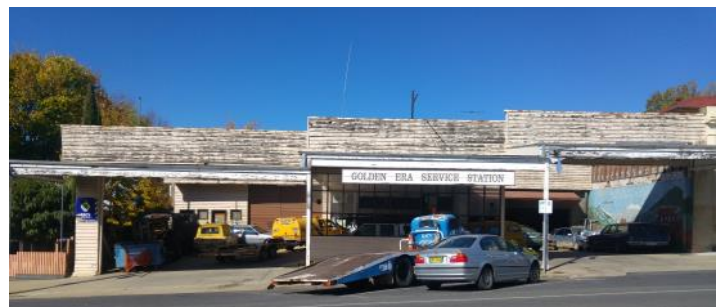


Day Two - Leisurely Country Drive and Lunch at Beechworth



...Yackandandah - morning tea

Beechworth - picnic in the park...



Day Two - BBQ Dinner, Trivia, and Auction Felltimber Community Centre in Wodonga



The local Rotary Club catered a delicious and generous BBQ dinner for the Rally on Tuesday evening, Zilzie Wines provided some excellent wines, and Roy provided some entertainment in the form of trivia quizzes, a session of 'Simon Says' which most of us were too clever to fall for, and a spirited 'reverse' auction where people gained some goodies..

It was a relaxed, convivial and no-stress evening, a great chance to eat and drink our fill, chat and catch up with old friends and make new ones.



Day Three - Show and Shine Display Day Junction Square in Wodonga



The Mayor of Wodonga, Cr Anna Speedie (above) gave the “Welcome to Wodonga” speech, and selected her favourite vehicle for the Federation Trophy - the 1933 Humber 12 owned by Brian Chesterfield from NSW (below)



Day Three - Show and Shine Display Day Junction Square in Wodonga



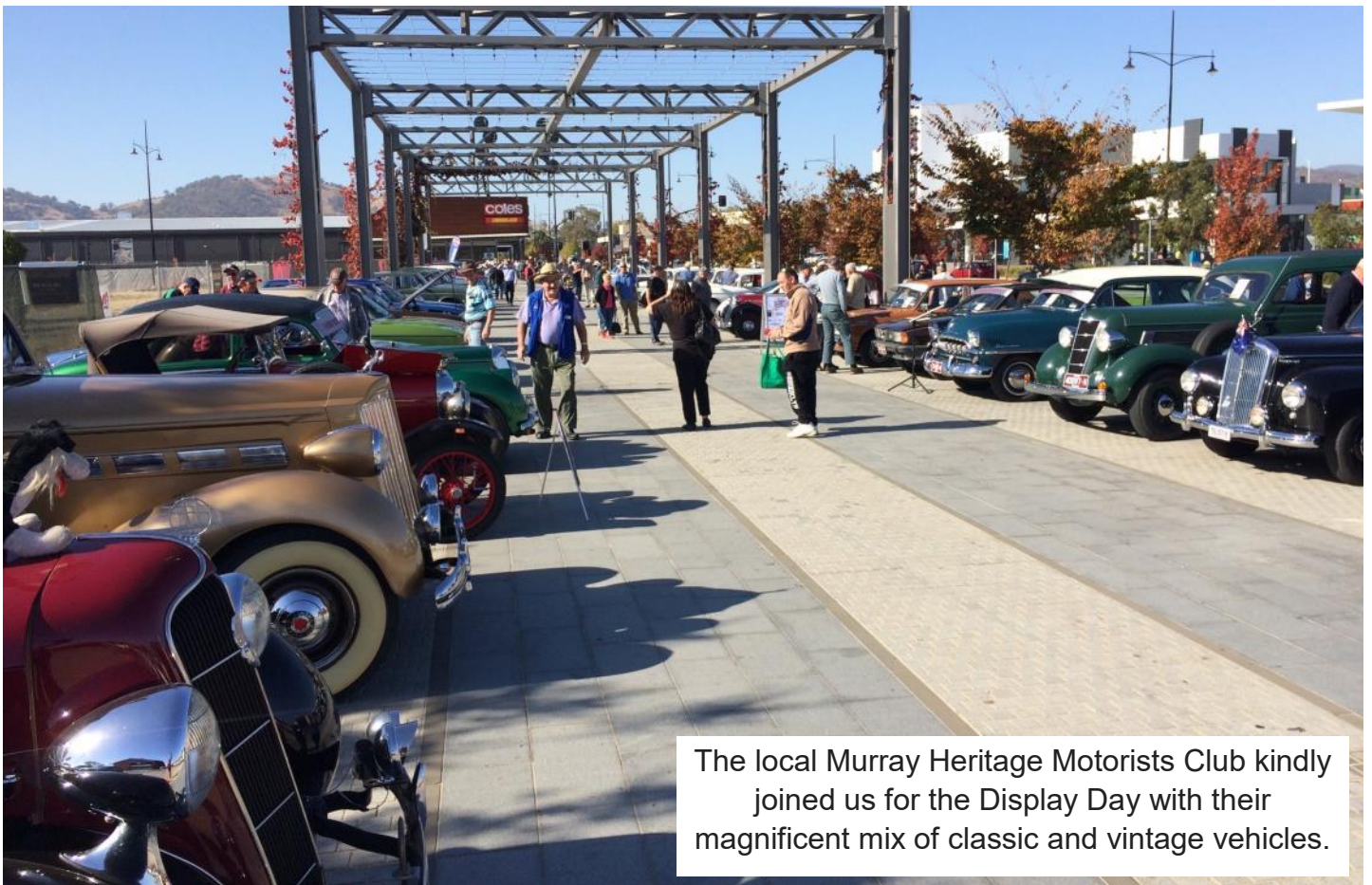
Day Three - Show and Shine Display Day Junction Square in Wodonga



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Day Three - Show and Shine Display Day Junction Square in Wodonga



The local Murray Heritage Motorists Club kindly joined us for the Display Day with their magnificent mix of classic and vintage vehicles.

Day Four - Leisurely Winery Drive

Lunch at The Pickled Sisters, Cofield Winery



Day Four - Presentation Dinner
Commercial Club in Albury



Day Four - Presentation Dinner Awards

Commercial Club in Albury



FVVCVC Award: Presented by Mayor Cr Anna Speedie of the City of Wodonga for the vehicle of her choice, the 1933 Humber 12 owned by Brian Chesterfield, Tamworth Vintage Car Club (see page 17)

The following awards were presented Cr Murray King of the City of Albury:

Most Original Vehicle: 1914 Humberette - John Washbourne and Judy Lewis, HCCV

Lady Judges' Award: 1966 Sceptre - Daryl & Jeanette MacLagan, Riverina Sports Car Association

Combined Judges' Award: 1966 Sceptre - Daryl & Jeanette MacLagan, Riverina Sports Car Association

Perpetual Trophy: 1966 Sceptre - Daryl & Jeanette MacLagan, Riverina Sports Car Association

Veteran Award: 1914 Humberette - John Washbourne and Judy Lewis, HCCV

Best Pre-WWII Vehicle: 1933 Humber 12 - Brian Chesterfield & Heather Frankel, Tamworth Vintage Car Club

Most Impressive 1940s: 1949 Mk II Super Snipe - Adrian Grant & Sally Agnew, RGCQ

Most Impressive 1950s: 1955 Hawk Mk VIA - David Robinson & Wendy Averay, HCSA

Most Impressive 1960s: 1966 Sceptre - Daryl & Jeanette MacLagan, Riverina Sports Car Association

Longest Ownership: 1965 Super Snipe - Peter Wright, HCCA NSW

Shortest Distance Travelled to Rally: 2.5km 1939 Singer Ute - Andrew & Peta Pollard, Murray Heritage Motorists

Longest Distance Travelled to Rally: 930km 1949 Mk II Super Snipe - Adrian Grant & Sally Agnew, RGCQ

Youngest Driver: 1960s Hillman - Heath Damm 46 years young, Murray Heritage Motorists Club

Best Hard Luck Story: The Lindens, HCCV - all electrics failed on the day & MM4 did not even leave the garage

Interesting Accessory: Concealed Console on 1965 Humber Imperial - Alan Lindsay & Patricia Campbell, HCCA NSW

Raffle: John Lloyd and Ray Linden (past and present owners of MM4B)

Quiz: Garry and Dureen Ellis, RGCQ

Day Four - Presentation Dinner Awards presented by Cr Murray King at the Commercial Club in Albury



John Washbourne & Judy Lewis



Jeanette & Daryl MacLagan



Brian Chesterfield



Adrian Grant



Andrew Pollard



David Robinson & Wendy Avery



Peter Wright



Ray Linden



Perpetual Trophy Winners
Daryl & Jeanette MacLagan



Roy with Heath Damm



Leslie & Trevor Ward
Hillman Humber Car Club NZ

Day Four - Presentation Dinner Awards

Commercial Club in Albury

Following on after the Humber Rally here in Wodonga a considerable number of Murray Heritage Motorists made complimentary comments about our presentation on Display Day. Many also asked if a certain light blue Sceptre had won any awards as they thought it was the Best on Show. The judges obviously got their decisions right as far as the public is concerned.

Treasurer of the Rally - one Apple scrooge - deserved his Award being an empty money box missing its lid and with a brass razoo attached. Which Bank? had rejected it as having no value even though he attempted to pass it off as a Chinese 5 Jiao coin. He even tried to palm it off onto the Trading Table to no avail!

Fortunately the one and only Veteran present was able to continue on its merry way with the help from the gardener who supplied some twist tie material to wire the brake cable to the accelerator. In the old days this would have been accomplished by cutting the farmer's wire fence for *"a quick fix"*. There were just a few comments on the effectiveness of this emergency repair as the feisty little car seemed to be gasping for breath going up the big hill and then literally flying down the big hill later - a case of wrong way round perhaps?

On a more serious note there were a number of Entrants whose main aim appeared to be to win the Hard Luck Award and as each rolled up to Register were confidently giving details of their respective plights. A Minx from Qld failed to show as it was beset with engine problems the week before. Our redoubtable ladies from the Committee had replaced everything that could be replaced the week before but on the day of departure only made it to Seymour before enlisting the RACV's help with a tow truck back to home. Surely a good case for *"If it's not broke - then don't fix it!"*

The South Australian Pullman reached Echuca before needing surgery but eventually arrived a

few hours late on Day 1. The caravanners from Ballarat made a fair effort by using two cars to get to Daylesford but were told it wasn't allowed in the rule book. And being a TV Star counted for nought!

But the ***Best Hard Luck Story*** came from the owners of the one and only MM4B which had just been repainted, and in the last minute reassembly after such a perfect coating and finish all the electrics failed and it just would not start unless the light switch was used. The lights wouldn't work unless the battery was wired on. The final straw was that the bonnet, once it was reattached, could no longer be opened, even by the team frantically working on it. In final desperation the owners decided on using their standby Humber velocipedes and set off pedalling hoping to break some sort of record which involved going for the best consumption statistic! The two answers were glasses of red wine per stop and jugs of beer per detour. Would they have been better off on a bicycle built for two?

As luck would have it the Committee had foreseen this eventuality and had made special Certificates called "Isochronous Awards" which were enthusiastically accepted. (Submitted by RR)

Statistics

Rally Attendance:

- * 56 registered participants (27 Vic; 14 NSW; 8 SA; 4 Qld; 3 NZ)
- * 27 Vehicles comprising 25 Humbers; 1 Singer; 1 Hillman (plus 2 moderns)
- * 2 Humber Bicycles

The 25 Humber vehicles spanned 44 years, ranging from 1914 to 1967

Day Five - Farewell Breakfast Felltimber Community Centre in Wodonga



Day Five - Farewell Breakfast
Felltimber Community Centre in Wodonga

