

# PAST TIMES



December 2024



1929 Dodge DA - Owner Ray Smith

## From the President's desk



With the festive season fast approaching it is a busy time for your club, particularly for the organisers of the annual Christmas lunch. We are fortunate to have a group of enthusiastic volunteers, as it is quite a feat to organise, from the decorations through to the cleaning and packing up. We are very fortunate club member Graham Hough, with his musical and singing talents has agreed to provide the entertainment. Santa Claus also consented to make an appearance, along with Alfie the Elf. This is a club subsidised event, with a lovely three course meal catered by the Swan Athletic Club, door and table prizes will be provided by your Club VAA. Special thanks to Tom Polich, for liaising with the Swan Athletics Club for their club facilities. I do get asked by some members why we don't use our own club rooms, to be put simply it is a question of safety and comfort, and with approx 500 members it allows more to attend this subsidised event.

The Rover has now been over the pits and licensed, special thanks to Dave Currall and the workshop crew for arranging this.

The Club Jag is back at the workshop, going through the final checks before sale. Expressions of interest are being taken for anyone wanting or interested in purchasing it. If there is no interest the Committee of Management has decided to sell it with a car broker.

One more monthly meeting before Christmas, 2nd Tuesday of the month, Tuesday 10th December, sausage sizzle 7pm meeting 8pm

Wishing you all the very best  
VAA President

*Brian Tucker*

During this festive season of giving, let us all slow down and enjoy the simple things. The oil drips on the driveway the new battery that goes flat, but is actually five years old. The pool of green water that gradually gets bigger and bigger. The engine knocking and you know it's not the Carol singers.

Seasons Greetings to all our great members

From the Committee of Management and your President

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## Mug of the month

Mug of the Month was Bill Redeckis, presented by VAA Club President Brian Tucker



November VAA Mug of the Month supported the Lions club, with a Christmas cake and pudding.

Included to add some Romance for Christmas was a bottle of Limoncello with 2 Christmas straws



## Golden Oldies

Congratulations Nicole Hollis, the winner of our Golden Oldies Challenge, Awards presented by Golden Oldies coordinator and VAA Vice President, Domenic Paoliello.

Nicole has the honour of being the 1st name on the VAA Perpetual Memorial Trophy.



## Keyring reward



VAA Club Registrar Dave Currell won Domenic's question from the magazine, for his effort he was awarded a VAA Club Keyring.

Domenic always has a question to kick off the Raffle. Questions from the past have been, General Knowledge, History, Automobile History or questions that can be answered if you have read the club magazine. Usually an entertaining start to the meeting Raffle



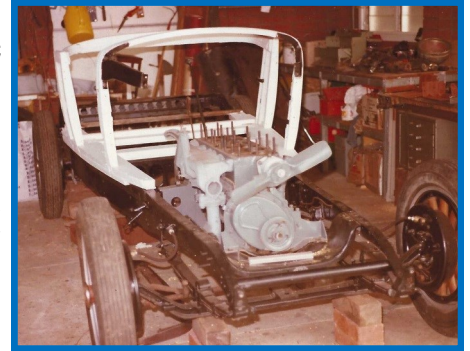
## Front Cover

### 1929 DA Dodge Six.



Specifications: 208 cu in (3.4 litre) L head seven bearing. 63 HP. 4-wheel hydraulic brakes. 3 speed transmission. 3.8:1 diff ratio. Built by Chrysler.

The Dodge was located on a farm near the wheatbelt town of Miling in 1979. It was in a very dilapidated state. The rear half of the body was missing, and the car had been used to pump water from a dam. It had a water pump



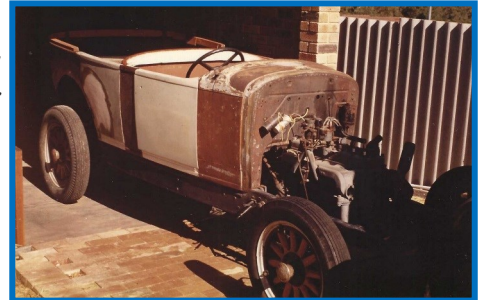
mounted next to the gearbox.

Over 8 years of restoration, parts were obtained from a parts car in Stoneville also from another 4 vehicles, found in Albany and Harrismith in WA. The rear tub came from the Blue Mountains in NSW.

The parts that could not be found, I had to make, including the rear doors, door hinges and bumper bars. In those days foundries were quite plentiful. The Carine Tafe College proved to be a valuable training ground for body panel and spray-painting skills. Several other VAA members and past members attended the courses in the early 1980's. Most members restored their own cars in those days.



Mechanically the Dodge was generally complete, but number 6 conrod big end bearing was virtually non-existent. A replacement conrod from a wreck saw 8 years of service before a complete engine overhaul by past member Rob Stewart in 2003.



The Dodge was painted Beige and Black and after 7 years the Dodge was finally concessionally licensed. The first run from the causeway to Fremantle then home was in the rain and without a hood. It ran very well. I spent



the next year fabricating the hood frame from tubular steel table legs and exhaust pipe. The fabric was fitted by a 90-year-old Dutch craftsman.

The car was used extensively in the 80's and 90's and was even on full registration for a period when it was used for weddings.

In 2010 the paint was starting to deteriorate. The national bi-annual Dodge Brothers rally and Bay to Birdwood in South Australia was looming, so off came the body for another strip down and respray, this time in Jaguar Grenadier Red and Volvo Wine. Trailered to Adelaide we completed the Dodge Brothers rally and Bay to Birdwood Run without a hitch. The Dodge has now completed 3 Dodge Brothers runs, each lasting about a week and several hundred kilometres.

Having been on the VAA register continually for 46 years, I believe that the Dodge is the longest serving vehicle in the VAA.

Owned and restored by

*Ray Smith*





## Melbourne Cup Tues 5th November

The VAA 2024 Melbourne Cup luncheon held at the Club Rooms on 5<sup>th</sup> Nov was a raging success.

52 Members, invited guests and friends attended, including City of Swan Councillor Rachelle Predovnik, and were seated in what could only be described as a Plush Restaurant atmosphere. Members enjoyed a scrumptious Lunch of Cold meats, Prawns, all the salads you could think of, followed with Sweets of Pavlova, Black Forrest and Cheesecakes. Sylvana's lovely Sponge was also a treat.

Jack compared the event and ran 4 Sweeps, which all attendees participated in vigorously. Over \$350 was distributed back to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> winners of each Sweep.

Prizes were awarded to participants after the running of a Fashion Parade, in which nearly all the ladies participated enthusiastically. Prizes were awarded to Best Dressed Lady, Best Dressed Man, and Best Novelty Dresser. The winners were Dee Jay, Martin Payne and Brian (Bluey) Pilton respectively.

Special thanks and appreciation must go to Dianne McCracken and Shirley Everett for the excellent catering and presentation, Deb Atkinson for decorations, Jurkov and Billings families for wine and Ice donations, Mark McKenzie for manning the door for money collection and ticketing and several others who helped in the setting up.

A Great function which was enjoyed by all who attended, and a demonstration of what our club can achieve when we all work together.

*Jack McCracken*

Photographers - *Deb Atkinson and Gretar Jonnson*



Deb and Mark Atkinson



Jack and Dianne McCracken



Mary and Brian Tucker



Phil Carter and Family



Members enjoying their Melbourne Cup Lunch



## Marley's Transport Thursday 21st November

Historic Commercial Vehicle Club of WA invited the Vintage Automobile Association of WA to join them for a Thursday run. The weather was perfect, 22 deg and overcast.

First, we will assemble at Brian Brookes's place in Byford, then at Marley's Transport Yard.

9 cars from our VAA club and 10 trucks from the HCVC club.



In Brian's workshop/sheds, one could find several trucks, restored and spray painted by him over the years.

Quite a collection as the photos show. We did not find out the story behind the Gofers. (motorized seats).

By the way one of the trucks is the one he last used hauling freight around WA and Eastern States. The Prime-mover has over 2 million kilometers on the clock and looks ok to take another road trip.

Around 10:30 a.m, all cars and trucks lined up on the street, ready for the trip from Byford to Marley's Transport yard on Armstrong Road, Hope Valley.

I ended up between two trucks, tail lights in front and two big headlights in my rear mirror, with the occasional shadow of the vehicles running on my right in the opposite direction.

When arriving at Marleys Yard we were greeted by Frank Marley the owner, and promptly guided into a 4 line formation around his own vintage car. Holden Monaro given to himself on his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday I am guessing he is now 75 years old.

All the cars and trucks are sitting pretty in front of his rather large workshop and office building.





Frank invited all to join him in the lunch room, for an early lunch with coffee or orange juice to wash it down. There Frank introduced some of his family and staff members and their role in the business. After 1 hour of lunch, we all followed him to the workshops for a thorough inspection of how to keep some 90 primover and 200 trailers rolling on



and carting freight all over the state. The entire workshop is built on 2 levels. So road trains with 2 or 3 trailers can be serviced at the same time from the pits under the floor.

He led us around to the grain sheds, fabrication workshop, then on to Milne feed sheds and pallet loading facilities. Marley's Transport has been operating for 55 years, solely by the family. The interesting add-on is several years ago Marley

Transport assembled, in Merredin WA, the world's longest road train ever done. Starting with a Kenworth bobtail truck, twin steer, and tri-axle drive (all up weight 39t) fully loaded with gravel. Then hooking up some 45 trailers behind. All up weight 603 tonne. Marleys Transport held this title for several years. (See page 8 for details of the Road Train Record)

At the end, Brian Tucker, president of the VAA club presented Frank with a copy of our VAA 50-year history book. We believe Frank likes to read books to settle the nerves after a hard day's work.

Big thank you to the Marley family for giving us an interesting tour and insight into the fight for survival in the early years of road transport, constantly fighting the WA Railways for freight to cart.

Thank you also to the HCVC club, who invited us to join them on this run.



*Gretar Jonnson*



A few of the vehicles assembled at Marley's

Photographers- *Gretar Jonnson and Sheryl Jurkou*



## Introducing VAA South of the River Scrutineer



**G**raeme Barton joined the VAAWA around 15 years ago. He has been an active member of the club since then.

He was the Building Manager for a few years, making many repairs and managing the raising of the Shed roof to accommodate the Hoist.

He was also the Main Scrutineer for the Club's annual inspection event for some years. Members came in with their vehicles, he, Ray and a couple of others checked the cars and

let owners know what needed fixing.

He was inspecting vehicles south of the river until 2021, until he and Rhonda headed to the NT to help a friend on an Indigenous community.

They returned in 2022 and have had a quiet time until now, due to health reasons.

Graeme is eager to get back into being part of the club, as he is a bit of a car fanatic, and enjoys the club comradery.

He is currently working on a vehicle for a friend and then will get back into fixing Rhonda's 1959 Mercedes (she hopes).

*Rhonda Barton*



Graeme's 1976 Lincoln

I hope Graeme will forward us a story about this vehicle for a future magazine.

VAA Editor

## Merredin W.A. - Heart of the Wheatbelt Home of the Worlds Longest Road Train

**Date:** 3rd April 1999

**Location:** Great Eastern Highway Merredin to Nangeenan

**Record:** 45 Trailers - (35 Semi Tippers, 4 Stock Crates, 2 Freezers, 2 Taut Liners, 1 Flat Top, and 1 Tanker. 980 wheels suspended on 245 Axles)

**Length:** 610 meters

**Weight:** 603 tonne

**Distance Travelled:** 8 Kilometres

**Average Speed:** 12 Km/hr

**Owner:** Marley's Transport

**Driver:** Greg Marley

**Truck:** "Millipede" Kenworth K100G  
10 x 6, twin steer rigid truck

**Engine:** Cummins Signature 565 HP

**Gearbox:** Eaton Fuller RTLO18718B

**Differentials:** Rockwell RZ75-166GP Meritor Tri Drive

**Suspension:** Hendrickson WD3-600 Air Bags



Marley's record information  
and photo *Robert Hyde*

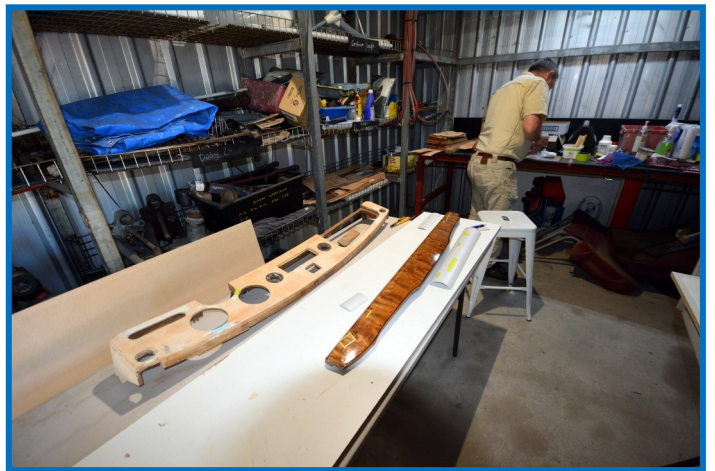
The current longest Road Train record is held by John Atkinson. Recorded Clifton Qld, 19th Feb 2006



## Club Workshop

Workshops are always busy every Wednesday at the VAA Club. 20 members working on various projects as per usual. Our Gunbarrel Grey Jaguar car is still being worked on and will be made ready to selloff, for one lucky new owner to enjoy. Hopefully it will stay in the club. The Black Rover is ready for the road, licensed, has lots of new parts and new tires fitted. Give Brian a \$ number if you would like to purchase this reliable car. Does not look good, but runs well. Anything from \$3000.00 +. Cheap runabout if you asked me. At 10.30 the bell rang for the morning break. Brian cooked up Bacon and eggs, served in bread and this brought on quietness in the hall, when all hoed in. Dianne made cakes to follow, with cups of coffee or tea. Thank you, Diane and Brian. Well-fed workers give better production than hungry ones.

*Gretar Jonsson*



Photographer - *Gretar Jonsson*



### Event Coordinators

Jack and Dianne McCracken  
0412874031 or 0411789915  
john.mccracken6@bigpond.com

### Cars Coffee and Cake Mid-Week Run

Every Third Thursday of each month  
VAA members meet at the Coffee Hut  
4/777A Great Northern Highway Herne Hill  
This month's Coffee and Cake meet  
Thursday 19th December, 10am



## WHITEMAN PARK

CONSERVATION • RECREATION • EDUCATION

### VAA Annual Picnic Breakfast

Sunday 19th January 2025

8:00 am

Whiteman's Park, Shelter M

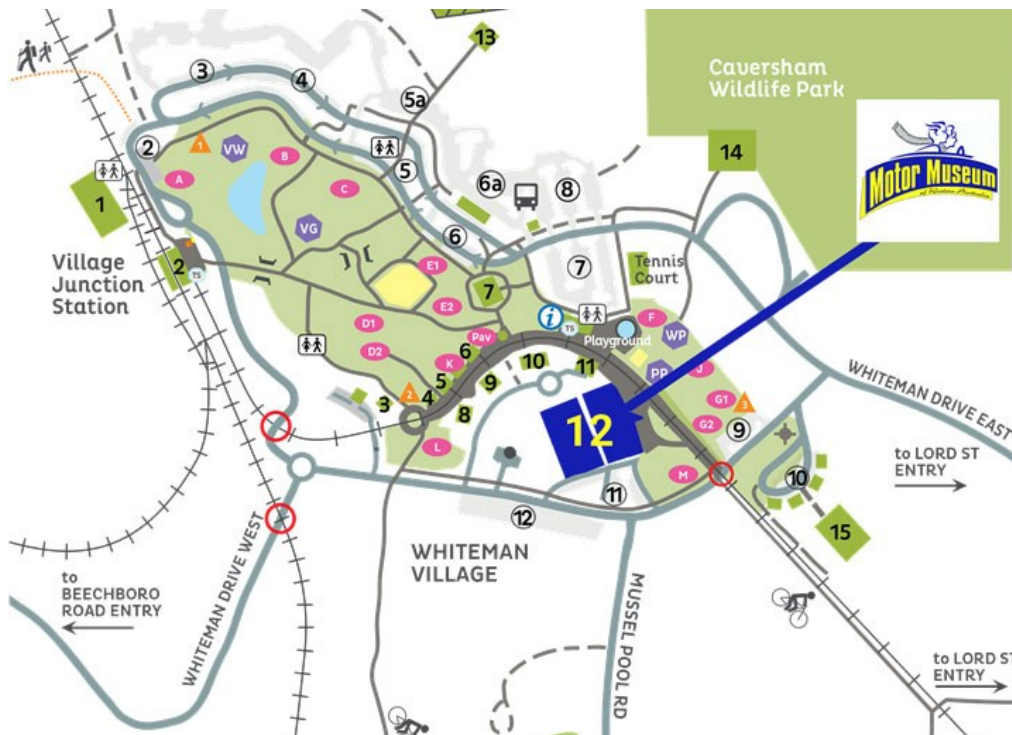
(Near Motor Museum of WA)

Parking for 72 cars, so make a New Year run in your club vehicle

Motor Museum has offered us discounted tickets (\$10 each)

Breakfast supplied by your club.

BYO Chair or Picnic Blanket, Plates and Cutlery



For events that may be of interest refer to our website ([www.vaawa.org.au/files/eventsOTHER.pdf](http://www.vaawa.org.au/files/eventsOTHER.pdf)) - VAA Members may drive their concessionally licensed vehicle to these events

Registrar *Dave Currell*





**For Sale**  
2009 VE Ute

V6 3.6 6 Speed Manual 248,000 km  
well serviced  
\$9,350 ono

Contact: Frank 0419 421 087



**For Sale or Museum Donation**  
2 x Engraving machines

Contact: Frank 0419 421 087





# MINUTES OF THE V.A.A.W.A. MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

12th November 2024

19 Helen Street, Bellevue

Meeting opened at:	OPENED AT 8:00pm
Attendees	As per Attendance Book
Opening By Brian Tucker	<p>The meeting started with advising Raffle prizes for the night.</p> <p>Brian likes to promote the Mug of the Month, which supports Charity.</p> <p>With the Mug of the Month, comes with the following:</p> <p>660 ml Mug – with Picnic Blanket, Lions Christmas Cake and Pudding, Non Alcoholic Wine, and 2 Christmas straws to add romance to Christmas</p> <p>Other Prizes:</p> <p>Cricket Set, Bunnings Gift Cards, Men's Toiletries Bag, and Rolled Carpet!</p>
Apologies	Martin Paine, Kevin Sweeney, Joseph Brajkovich, Bob De Jong, Mark Atkinson, Alan Sweeney, Michelle Miles, Jack & Dianne McCracken, Ray Roberts, Terry Egan, Peter Egan, Warren Hutchinson, Lesta D'Souza.
Visitors	N/A
New members	David Holborow, Rob Voysey, Sean Driscoll
Previous minutes	<p>Monthly General Meeting Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024</p> <p><b>Moved as being correct by: Graeme Barton</b></p> <p><b>Seconded: Bill Redeckis - All approved</b></p>
Correspondence In and Out By Pauline Velden	<p>Not much correspondence in during the month.</p> <p>Reminder from the AVVVA (Avon Vintage Cars) Swap Meet will now be held 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025 in Toodyay, as this year in Northam 18<sup>th</sup> February was 48c, so hoping for a cooler day for the event.</p> <p>Jack McCracken had advised that our Annual Breakfast was booked at Whiteman Park for the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025.</p> <p>Brian added that the breakfast will be held near the museum and will be under shelter, in the lawn area.</p> <p>Austin Motor Vehicle Club of WA News Letter.</p>
Business arising	<p>The term deposit of \$10,000 is about to mature. With the Christmas Lunch coming up which the club is subsidizing, and the income we were expecting which has not yet arrived, mainly from the sale of the Rover and the donation from the Citroen. It has now been decided to roll the term deposit into the Community Account, which is used generally to pay the bills.</p> <p>Once income is received from the sale of the Rover, Jag and the donation from the Citroen, the committee will re-evaluate to put funds back into the term deposit.</p>
Editor By Cheryl Glew	<p>The magazine has come together beautifully. This month we have Justin's Fairlane on the cover. His dad bought it new in 1968, and it is fitting to have it on the cover for November as it was his Dad's 99th birthday last week. Find Justin's dad's story inside the mag. Robert Hyde sent in a photo of his 1926 Truck and his Granddad's history.</p> <p>There is a great article about the Golden Oldies Day and the Convoy for Kids.</p> <p>Thank you everyone who contacts me with articles and ideas for the magazine. Keep them coming in</p> <p>Brian added, keep up the good work Cheryl, it is always a good read and well presented.</p>



Treasurers report  By Val Smith	Workshop Account	\$239.74	
	Community Account	\$19112.54	
	Term Deposit P & N	\$20,000.00	Transferred from Commonwealth bank
	Income:		
	Cans	\$ 48.70	
	John McCracken	\$ 35.00	
	Melbourne Cup	Expenditure and Income is even.	
	Graham Hough	\$ 100.00	Donation to workshop
	PAYOUTS:		
	Subiaco Print	Printing of Mag	\$ 375.00
	Telstra	Square (Eftpos)	\$ 27.50
	Tony Warner	Jag	\$1008.54
	Cheryl Glew	Post of Mag	\$100.50
	Dave Currell	License for Rover	\$139.50
	Water Corp		\$262.43
	MYOB		\$78.30
Accounts are all available for viewing, if anyone is interested.			
Moved for Approval: Steve Velden and Graham Hough			
Events	<p>Jack and Dianne are away in Adelaide, and asked Brian to go through the events.</p> <p>New members were advised, Wednesday and Saturdays the club rooms are open for workshop activities from 9:00 – 12:00pm. We have the library if any one wanted to borrow books. Even come in for a chat and have a cuppa.</p> <p>The Melbourne Cup Lunch was held and was quite a success. A good time was had by all who attended.</p> <p>16/11/24 - Events Committee Meeting on Saturday morning - Any member may attend. If a member has an event suggestion, please let the committee know.</p> <p>21/11/24 - Coffee Hut on the Great Northern Hwy. Very popular and successful. All welcome to attend.</p> <p>26/11/24 - Committee of Management</p> <p>01/12/24 - Beyond Blue Run – to Chidlow Tavern Meet at Club Rooms at 8:30 for 9:00am depart.</p> <p>08/12/24 - VAA Christmas Lunch – Will be held at the Swan Athletic Club Our member Graham Hough will be providing the entertainment with his guitar.</p> <p>10/12/24 – Next Club Meeting</p> <p>19/12/24 – Cars Coffee and Cakes</p> <p>21/12/24 – Events Meeting</p> <p>19/01/25 – Annual Club Breakfast – Whiteman Park</p>		



Vehicle examiner	<p>N/A – Ray has nothing to report.</p> <p>Graeme Barton resides in North Dandalup and has indicated he would be a vehicle examiner/scrutineer, as he was in the past, for anyone within these areas, who need their car examined. This will be for the Mandurah area.</p> <p>Appreciation to Graeme for stepping up into the role.</p>
Building Report Graham Hough	Nothing to Report.
Registrar Report and approval of new members By Dave Currell	<p>5 Nominations these evening –</p> <p>Graeme and Renee Dixon, nominated by Dougie Edwards</p> <p>Rob and Tracy Voysey, nominated by Pauline Velden</p> <p>Rob has a 1989 Toyota Landcruiser</p> <p>Gary and Donna Evans, they have a 1952 Vauxhall Velox</p> <p>David and Terry Holborow – Volvo</p> <p>Sean Driscoll – nominated by Graeme Barton.</p> <p>1936 International Ute</p> <p>Rover has been licensed for 12 months, if anyone interested for purchasing.</p> <p>Accepted by: Graham Hough and Sheryl Jurkov</p>
CMC	N/A
Library By Martin Paine	<p>As Martin is absent tonight, Brian reported we have a comprehensive library for anyone to view.</p> <p>Members do donate books and anyone is welcome to borrow books.</p>
Workshop Report By Bob de Jong	<p>Bob de Jong absent. Rob Cannon reported.</p> <p>(Unfortunately recording did not pick up details)</p>
Merchandise By Brian Tucker	Merchandise available – hats/shirts/keyrings and pens.
General business	<p>The Golden Oldies run was a success.</p> <p>Domenic Paoliello donated the Perpetual Memorial Trophy for The Golden Oldies Run.</p> <p>Silent Auction for the Wheelie Esky was won by Michael Hill.</p> <p>Michael's bid was \$125.00</p>
Raffle winners By Dom Paoliello	<p>Bill Redeckis, Dave Holborow, Nicole Hollis, Peter Calo</p> <p>Dom always makes the raffle fun</p>
Display car	<p>CLUB JAG – Tony Warner gave a run down on the project car which was purchased in February for \$12,000.00. The car owes the club \$22,442.02 and he expected the car should be able to be sold for \$30,000.00. Tony thanked those involved with the restoration of car, his brother, Alan Warner who painted the car, Liam, O'Connor Mark McKenzie, Bob de Jong, and all those in the workshop who contributed. Tony, acknowledged Loris for doing so much work on the car. It now needs to be licensed. Tony also mention about the Rover being donated to club and owes the club \$1500.00</p>
General Meeting closed:	Meeting declared closed at 9:00pm.



**VAA 2024/25 OFFICE BEARERS  
AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

<b>Position</b> * Denotes Member of Committee of Management	<b>Member</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
<b>President *</b>	Brian Tucker	president@vaawa.org.au	0428 803 606
<b>Vice-President *</b>	Domenic Paoliello	XL67@bigpond.com	0407 446 682
<b>Secretary *</b>	Pauline Veldon	secretary@vaawa.org.au	0405 144 919
<b>Treasurer *</b> <b>Assistant</b>	Val Smith Sheryl Jurkov	treasurer@vaawa.org.au ray.val.smith@gmail.com	0409 882 888
<b>Registrar</b>	Dave Currell	registrar@vaawa.org.au	0419 998 589
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<b>Webmaster</b>	Dave Currell	registrar@vaawa.org.au	0419 998 589
<b>CMC Delegate</b>	Frank Ferrari	frank@subiacoprint.com.au	0419 421 087
<b>Merchandising Officer</b>	Vacant		
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<b>Committee Member 2 *</b>	Lance Glew	lanceglew2@gmail.com	0427 173 666
<b>Committee Member 3 *</b>	Graham Hough	grahamhough7@gmail.com	0407 446 682
<b>Committee Member 4 *</b>	Steve Hollis	sjhollis@hotmail.com	0424 548 958
<b>Committee Member 5 *</b>	Jon Jon Ramirez	bigjonjon@gmail.com	0451 307 225
<b>Committee Member 6 *</b>	Tom Polich	tompolich8@gmail.com	0401 803 675

## VAA EVENTS CALENDAR 2024

MTH	DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	ADDRESS	CONTACT	PHONE #
ALL		Wed & Sat	9 am to 12 pm	VAA WORKSHOP	Club Rooms	Bob de Jong	0400 064 937
Dec	1st	Sun	10:00 am	Beyond Blue Run	Chidlow Tavern	Events Committee	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
Dec	8th	Sun	11:30 am	VAA Christmas Luncheon	Swan Athletics Sporting club	Events Committee	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
Dec	10th	Tue	8:00pm	VAA Club Meeting 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Pauline Velden Secretary	0405 144 919
Dec	19th	Thurs	10:00 am	Cars, Coffee & Cakes	The Coffee Hut Great Northern Highway	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
Dec	21st	Sat	9:30 am	Events Committee Meeting	Club Rooms	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915

## VAA EVENTS CALENDAR 2025

Jan	14th	Tue	8:00 pm	VAA Club Meeting 7:00pm sausage sizzle 8:00pm Meeting	Club Rooms	Pauline Velden Secretary	0405 144 919
Jan	19th	Sun	8:00 am	Annual Club Breakfast	Whiteman's Park, Shelter M	Events Committee	0412 874 031 0411 789 915
Jan	24th	Thurs	10:00 am	Cars, Coffee & Cakes	The Coffee Hut Great Northern Highway	Jack & Dianne McCracken	0412 874 031 0411 789 915

## SAVE THIS DATE

April 2025	6th	TBA	VAA Annual Swap Meet	Swan Athletics Club	Ray Smith	0416 018 119
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