

## From The Central West

Well, autumn has finally arrived - all we need now is for the temperature to subdue a little and some rain. There are some green places owing to storms but generally the Central West is still dry.

Some events have come and gone and hopefully were enjoyed by those who attended.

**Cars & Coffee:** Last month was a big display again with cars having to park on the grass to fit in; amazing where they all come from! I was joined by Michael Johnson from Molong with his green tabletop ute (I bet it was a quick trip). If you have not seen this ute, have a good look next time it is on show (or see 'And in the End', March-April 2018). Or stop at Molong for a coffee where it is parked outside their shop.

**Gnoo Blas Classic Orange:** Another big day at Orange! We only managed eight cars with Tom & myself a little late, just getting back from a caravan club event, and without our tired wives.

There were lots of cars on display, the biggest event yet. Colin Trusler collected a trophy (to add to his 2018 win). Many thanks to Bob Gilliland for bringing the gazebos up.

**Wellington Vintage Fair:** We started with a BBQ dinner Friday night, enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Stuart for the Club's BBQ as it turned out the park's kitchen ones were taken by another group. Morrie numbers were lower than in other years with a few members having to come in moderns.

The street parade had been changed to an earlier time (10am) but unfortunately local media advertised the old 11am time, which saw many cars turn up too late. We managed an eight-car line up, then the green rocket of a ute arrived, making nine.

We were privileged to have a very new Sydney member, John Attard, a bonus

as we then had just about all models on show - low lights, four doors, travellers, vans and a ute, which pleased the crowd sitting on chairs on the footpaths cheering us along. We then all went to a coffee/curio shop where we all enjoyed morning tea. We did meet some interesting people there dressed for the weekend.

From here we had a lovely country drive of 16kms to Ponto Falls on the Macquarie River for a picnic lunch, relaxing in our chairs under the shade of some magnificent river gums. Time was taken to look at each other's cars, particularly Len Jones' Minor 1000 convertible, apparently a South African build car.

Saturday night dinner was at Hermitage Hill Restaurant (the old hospital est 1904), now totally refurbished and a popular wedding venue and B&B. We were kindly shown around the place, including looking at a recent find - the original operating table (glad they have improved). One club member remembered having an almost severed finger reattached there as a six year old.

We sat back and enjoyed a very nice three-course meal and few drinks. We also presented prizes to the quiz winners, Rhonda & Colin for the observation one and Brian & Debbie for the Morris Minor one - a lot of interest and fun from the quizzes!

Sunday saw us set up early; with the arrival of our two Mudgee members we had a fair display of ten cars, losing Len Jones' convertible who had to leave Saturday. Unfortunately there was no 'Best Club Award', which was the trophy we took out last year. We as a Club could not have had a better weekend but I feel the Fair was a little down on numbers from earlier years, especially re our local members in the Central West region.

**Events** Cars & Coffee still on, every first Sunday of the month at the Cenotaph Dubbo 9am till 12.

Other events as listed in the Magazine. We have been invited to Gulgong in November with a promise of being looked after, maybe it could be a weekend away (watch this space).

**Members Cars:** All were interested in Len Jones' convertible; it was a series V fitted with a 1275 engine - but had a lot of older model fitments like a pull starter.

I am currently welding panels into my ute tub - and chasing smaller missing parts

where Brian Condon of Morris Minor World has come to the rescue.

**Club Plates:** These are available to qualifying Club Members, both CVS & HCRS, and are a great saving on registration costs. They do come with conditions so if you need help please contact me (and read Scott Barraclough's *Club Plates* article in this magazine).

Cheers  
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## Membership

We currently have 151 memberships with a total of 287 members. Our latest new member is John Collier with a Series II sedan and we welcome back Marion Chapman to the club.

Scott Barraclough

## Ray Selby

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