

## Morries on the Murray June 7-10

*Morries On The Murray* has been and gone. It was a fantastic weekend. We were blessed with some fantastic weather and we had 25 cars and around 40 people.



It all started around 9.30 on the Saturday morning. Our cars were all in place by around 9.45 and soon there were people everywhere looking at our display. We even had a Minor Junior on display! I had never seen one finished until the Echuca trip (I did see them at



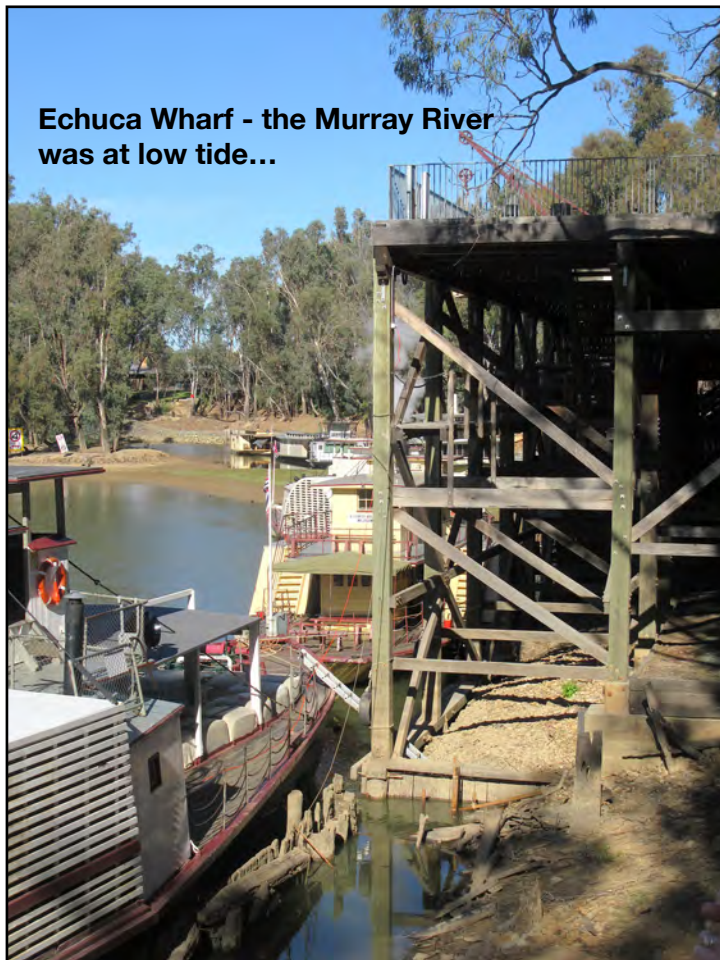
**Dinner with some of the MMCCNSW members**

Echuca was such a fantastic venue with so much to see and do. We honestly could have spent a week there. We were able to secure the best venue for our show and shine, the Murray Esplanade. Heaps of shops and places to eat and drink for everyone, I'm sure everyone that was there would agree.





ESM when I was in England in 2016 but they were still finishing them off). This one was a very unique yellow. There's no more of them being made in this colour which is a shame.



Around 1.00pm we all met at the information centre for a guided tour of the famous wharf area and the Esplanade - it was a very interesting tour. Jennie, our tour guide, gave us a talk on how the early



settlers lived in the Echuca area. Then at around 2.30 we all enjoyed a cruise on a paddle steamer for a 1 hr run up the Murray River and back. One of the guys who was hosting us on the paddle steamer owns a Morry but as he was working for the weekend so he couldn't join in, which was disappointing for him.



Saturday night we all went to the Beer Shed for our dinner and a tour of this one - man's collection of everything, from beer cans to cars and everything in between. Neil Thomas, the owner, had so many things on display. The best thing about it was that it all was immaculately presented.

The meal we had was something else; a spit roast with plenty of food for everyone and more. Then we had desert which was just as nice. Needless to say there was plenty of non-alcoholic and





incredible stories, handed out some prizes and showed us some of his more precious things he has acquired. Neil told us the stories of how he came to buy these treasures. I was told by many people how good it was before we went but nothing could have prepared us for how good it really was!

Sunday morning: we all met at the Tourist Information Centre before we all headed off to Lockington. There, we were treated to a



**The Beer Shed had something for everyone! (Left) Fay Cullen helps owner Neil with the presentation**

good hearty lunch of home-made soup, sandwiches and cakes, all made by the committee of the Heritage Centre. After lunch we were taken on a tour of the centre and its grounds and sheds. In there

alcoholic drinks for everyone.

After our first course we went into the main shed where Neil's prized collections were. He entertained us with some



**Beer and race cars - Keith Cosgrove is happy**

was a large selection of historic farm machinery. There were many other interesting things to look at too. Around 2.30 we headed back to Echuca where some people chose to have some quiet time while others, myself included, went to the Holden Museum. This museum was well





laid out with many unique (and expensive) cars on display.

Sunday night we all went to the Border Inn at Moama for a bistro-type meal. The meals were all brought out in a timely manner and were all piping hot and delicious.

On Monday morning we were supposed to have bacon and egg rolls with tea and coffee at a local park. The weather forecast for Monday morning wasn't great so I negotiated a deal with the local bakery for everyone to receive their entry fee back in food from the bakery. It couldn't have worked out better! Everyone had \$10 each to spend at the bakery. Most stayed there for quite a while so I dare say everyone was enjoying the food and the atmosphere. This is where we all said goodbye and set off back home.



**Farewell breakfast, Moama Bakery**

I would like to sincerely thank Chris Coates, who was the person responsible for going to Echuca a couple of times to organise the venues for us. He negotiated special pricing everywhere we went, too. Thank you Chris, I couldn't have done it without you mate.

Thanks, too, to everyone who attended. Every person helped to make the Show & Shine the success it was. We had cars from Victoria, NSW and QLD. I know some people travelled many hours to be there. We did try to make this event interesting and different. Personally, I can't wait for the next one...

Our next Morris Minor Owners National Show & Shine will be in Hobart, Tasmania, at Salamanca Place, over the Queen's Birthday long weekend in 2021. The dates of the weekend are June Sat 12, Sun 13 & Mon 14 June. I will update this as soon as everything is organised. We will be having a display on the lawns of Parliament House on the Saturday which is the same day as the famous Salamanca Markets. We will be positioned very close to the markets so there will be plenty to see and do and plenty of people around to look at our beautiful cars.

Cheers,  
Darren Goff

Photos: Les Whale, Owen Sinden



More from Echuca



A star of the show -  
'Mini' Minor







Some artefacts from the Farm Machinery Display Centre, Lockington

## ORIGINAL POP TOP CARAVAN

Built in 1939 by Hugh O'Brien  
For his honeymoon trip.

Probably first of its type in  
Australia.

### Ransoms Steam Wagon (Overtyp)

Number 35138, 4 Horsepower, 2 Cylinder, 4x7x8 inch, bore and stroke

Ransoms Simms and Jefferies Ltd, Ipswich, England

Purchased 24 August 1924, by Shire of Glenelg, Casterton, Vic.,  
from Ruston & Horsby, Melbourne, for £1,030 (\$2,060).

Later sold to Rowe Bros Saw Mill at Carpolac, Vic., for log haulage.

Sam Marshall purchased the wagon in the 1960s and restored it with the  
help of Ray Mustey building the coachwork.

Sam exhibited the wagon at Echuca and Lake Goldsmith steam rallies for  
over 30+ years, with the help of Lindsay Marshall transporting it.

Current Owner: Phil Marshall



1960 Dodge 4-door for restoration - anyone?



Some of the Murray riverboat names...

"You don't have to worry 'cause you have no money  
People on the river are happy to give."



Darren takes time  
off on the cruise...



...before  
providing some  
after-dinner  
service on  
Terry's car.





Beer Shed - I can't get no...



Holden Museum:  
New and old



Murray River flood levels -  
some are h-u-g-e!



We weren't the only 'different' people in Echuca...



Ray Selby's sense of humour: "Hey, Terry, watch this.  
If I just cut the fuel line in Darren's car..."