

From The Central West

We have gone from cold-and-snowing to 30 degrees as I write, what unusual weather - but it has happened like this before. One really has to travel the country to see the devastation of this crippling drought, paddocks so bare you would swear they had just been ploughed as sheep and cattle eat the most minute piece of vegetation. Some of the smaller communities like Stuart Town and Euchareena are carting household water at their cost of \$250 to \$400 a month. Still no rain in sight and people are feeling depressed; even the local club members don't seem to want to venture out.

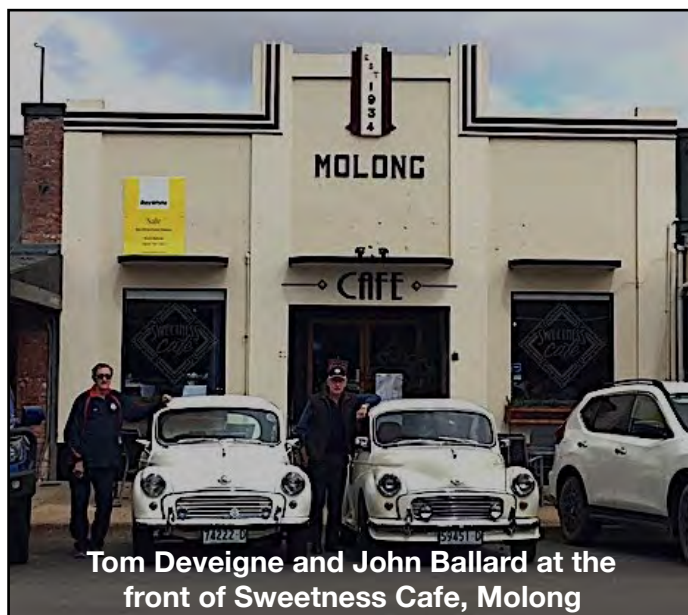
I am hoping spring is better as August was very cold. I noticed a Mark 2 Jaguar the other day with a little knitted wool coat on the 'leaper' bonnet mascot. Someone had gone to the trouble to make a fitted one - great talking piece!



Classic Cars & Coffee You may note the name change, this has happened because of the increasing numbers. So now only classic cars are allowed and the more modern and exotic cars have their own event and day. As well as the name change it is also only on bi-monthly with the next one on Sunday October 6. 9am till 12.00.

Events

7 September: Today was our run to Molong to Michael & Cheryn Johnson's 'Sweetness' cafe for morning tea and despite several e-



Tom Deveigne and John Ballard at the front of Sweetness Cafe, Molong

mails out to all members and a couple of apologies, just Tom, Maureen, Sue and myself went. A disappointing response for a run in the middle of the area of our 19 members. Time to shake the cobwebs off your car.

To start off the day the temperature was just 7 degrees at 9 am after 29 degrees



Morning tea with Michael Johnson at Sweetness Cafe Molong

and sunny the day before. It got worse as the temperature dropped in Molong. From there the day just got better and better a - it's a great place for morning tea with interesting wall hangings and memorabilia, great coffee and food and our host/Club member was delightful, spending a lot of time with us there, where we had many great chats. Not to be defeated I *will* arrange another visit sometime later.

Don't forget... Orange Gnoo Blas and Wellington Fair early next year.

Members' Cars

Michael Johnson Those who have seen the highly modified little green table top (see 'And in the end...' from March-April 2018 *Minor Torque* - Ed) would appreciate the vehicle. Michael has been adding to it by replacing a dodgy bonnet with a better example (thanks to Morris Minor World) and now he is wanting to re-cover the bench seat with leather, not just any old leather but a green kangaroo hide leather to suitably match the green body. Michael was prepared to hop a plane to anywhere to buy the leather so what a surprise when he discovered some from a deceased estate. No, not in Perth WA but in Canowindra NSW, about 50kms down the road. Enough hides in the right colour have been purchased - looking forward to seeing it finished.

Tom Deveigne Tom had a problem with some loose parts in his electronic distributor, repaired and refitted by a local auto electrical shop but the engine did not seem right. A trip to a new Dubbo business here with a rolling dyno and a missing 30 odd horses was found - car gallops away now.

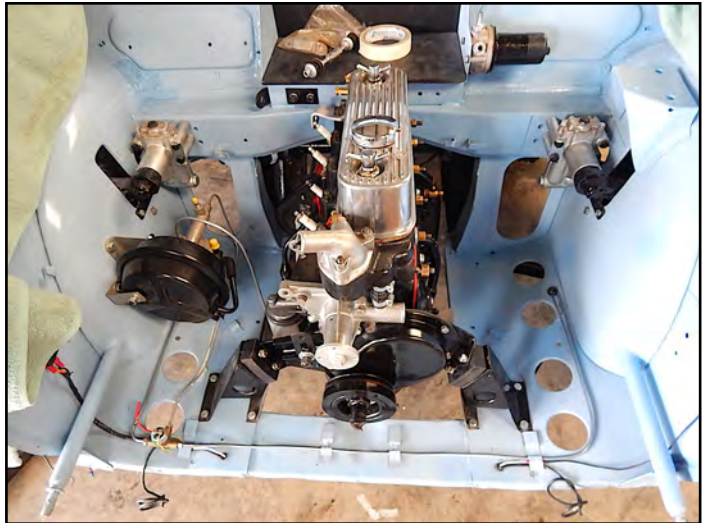
Robert Keen Finally, with the help of Club members and others, we have found a 4.55 diff, where the centre will go to Robert and the housing to another member.

John Hepburn Is away at the moment but the car is always undergoing restoration.

John Ballard For myself I am still working on the ute; the bonnet has been painted twice as the first job was out in colour



John Ballard's Austin Minor Ute



match, now trying to make it fit. I have also started on the wiring and the seats.

I am impressed by the Austin grill now fitted but wonder where to get another if it was damaged in an accident.

Totally convinced that my white car had blown a head gasket as the temp



**New trim for John's ute.
Is that the family room floor?**

gauge was showing warmer than normal and a small green water leak near a head stud was seen, I removed the head. This was despite the fact a compression test was OK. Results were all good - no blown head gasket at all, it was a leak was from a thermostat I had fitted and the gasket was leaking. I also found the temperature gauge is faulty; still, a good time for a de-coke, re-paint and clean up. I was impressed how clean inside the head was from the Penrite oil I use.

Members

We have a new member in Lithgow, Stuart Jones - hoping to catch up soon.

I went to look at a car for sale here in Dubbo and the owner said if it does not sell it he will join our Club (noticed the ad has now been removed from Carsales.com).

Tech Stuff Hazard lights amendment is in this magazine, I was working on LED lamps but some still have incandescent globes, sorry.

Club Plates are available to qualifying Club Members, both CVS & HVS are a great saving on registration costs. They do come with conditions so if you need help please contact me.

Cheers

John Ballard

Central West Coordinator

Ph: 6882 7753 Mob: 0418 638 036

jbubbo@gmail.com

No, not England but near Orange, NSW, on Saturday August 10, as the snow started. This utility was used to promote 'Heifer Station Winery', Nashdale.

I felt like grabbing my car cover for it!

Cheers, John

PS On further investigation, Michelle Stevens from Heifer Station, is more than happy to host a MMCCNSW outing.

What about a weekend combining Classic Cars & Coffee at Dubbo, a run to the Johnson's *Sweetness Cafe* in Molong - and lunch at the winery? Just a thought...

Heifer Station Winery

