Australia Day - 26 Jan

Happy Australia Day to the Morris Minor family of NSW - and what better way to celebrate the day and kick off the new year than with the annual Australia Day parade in Berrima.

It has become one of our most traditional and best-attended outings of the year, with a BBQ breakfast and lunch supplied by the Southern Tablelands Region.

There was only one snag (no, not a sausage) this year, and justifiably so, too. The parade through the town was cancelled



by the RFS because they needed emergency access to all bushfire-prone areas and, with a parade in progress, access would have been more than just a small problem.

Were we disappointed? Are you kidding? Absolutely not! The RFS volunteers all deserve a medal, an OAM, an MBE, a knighthood - and our eternal gratitude. These men and women put their lives on the line and, especially this summer, what a magnificent job they have all done!

Last year was a scorcher and numbers, both paraders and the general public, were down. This year? Another hot day, but we had heaps of fun



anyway. Besides, we didn't have to worry about the parade so we could all just enjoy the event, wander around, chat to friends and strangers, and have a really relaxing day.

I have no idea what time others arrived but by 8.30am the gazebos were up and the BBQ sizzling with eggs and bacon. Thank you very much to the volunteers from Southern Tablelands Region for providing everyone with shade and breakfast (and lunch!), it was *very* much appreciated.

By far the best part of the day was spending time with fellow Morris Minor enthusiasts and their families. Friendly chats, talk about cars and modifications,







usual path, then some presentations were made. President Bob Gilliland stepped forward and presented Jim Beaver with his

> thousand mile trophy, then a few awards from All British Day 2019 that had been held over: Keith Cosgrove for 'Best Under Bonnet' and John Bowmer for 'Best Interior'.

> The highlight of the day? Easy! Bob Gilliland presenting Ray Selby with the MMCCNSW award for the 2019 Most Consistent Member - basically 'club member of the year'. Well done, Ray, this is a most

thoroughly deserved award, congratulations!

So, a good day was had by all? No. It was (apart from being a bit sweaty) a wonderful day, a really uplifting outing that augurs well for the Morris Minor Club of NSW for 2020. See you at the next event!

Story and photos: Owen Sinden





advice on 'what to do next', answering questions like "How did you do that?" Similar to all Morris Minor outings, it was a learning and sharing experience.

The raffle (what a raffle!) took its









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