

## From The Central West

Earlier this year, farming conditions improved so much the crops came in heavy, and as the saying goes, farmers made hay while the sun shined. Now, many are burning the hay as it has been desecrated by mice and is worth nothing as stock will not eat it. It's not uncommon to see tens of thousands of dollars worth go up in flames.

To make matters worse, as sowing is happening, mice are eating the sown seed - but that's farming. Still, people are moving to the country in droves and sales and rentals are very high.

### Events

**Dubbo Cars & Coffee** After a successful Wellington weekend, I was looking for an event when, without much warning, Dubbo's Cars & Coffee was reinstated after a 14 month halt owing to the pandemic. What an event it turned out to be and a real shame I had the only Morris there.

Cars numbered over 150 and as the Pre-31 Autumn Rally was also on, another 20 cars turned up. There was plenty of interest in my Austin Ute, even an offer to buy.

There were some different cars on display, from a BMW Isetta with a front-opening door to a couple of Chevrolet people movers (one an open top). Also, the Police displayed their Chrysler 300C Highway Patrol car.

The gold coin entry donation went to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.



**Mudgee, September** This event is organised and going ahead (more details in the magazine on page 7). Anyone wanting help with accommodation, please give me a call. You can book Mudgee Caravan Park or, if you prefer, two or three of the close-by motels.

### Members' Cars

Denis Woodford: Purchased a rebuilt 948 cc motor for his car. This motor had seen several owners in the Central West but never fitted. A few problems arose as Denis fitted it, but with some needles for the carby from Brian it was finally up and running. There was a problem with oil leaking from around the timing cover seal so a later type cover was fitted. However, a day later it was on three cylinders and with no compression on No. 2. The cover was removed to find an exhaust valve with a bad lean - it had snapped at the collett. After some replacement exhaust valves and some lapping in, the car was running very sweetly. These things do improve your skills over time.

John Hepburn: John has now refurbished his brakes and will show the car again soon. He has booked for Mudgee in September.

John Ballard: My Ute has started to settle in and I have had to re adjust my front brakes. While busily building up a 1098 motor for it, I hit a snag when the pistons I had turned out to be 998cc, not 1098 - I found this out







Gary Martin: The Ute he is building is progressing and Gary is trial fitting the front doors from a two door, which he managed to buy from Brian. While this is happening Gary is busy on his convertible. Gary's workshop is complete with a hoist and looks impressive.

I am hoping some members turn up at shows as it gets lonely being the only Morris on display.

Stay safe  
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when 5mm was protruding from the top of the block!

I am also fitting a 1275cc diaphragm clutch plate, which can be done using a re-drilled 948 flywheel; it is currently at a machine shop. I have installed one of my new rear doors on the car and painting the other.



Gary Martin's two Morris: convertible on the hoist and ute. Impressive workshop!





## Postcards from John Ballard at Cars and Coffee, Dubbo



Above: BMW Isetta - your legs are part of the crumple zone...



Above and below: very different vehicles from Chevrolet - Corvette Stingray and people movers



Left: Model T Ford, Car Of The Century and (above) John's Austin Ute