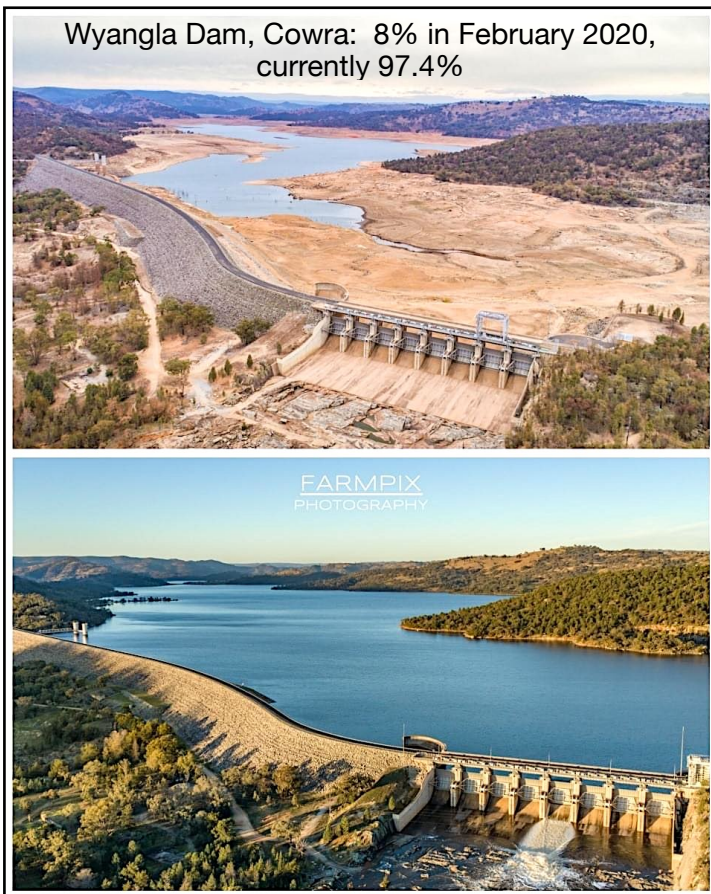


## From The Central West

Rain, rain and more rain seems to be the normal out here at the moment, causing a lot of problems for farmers who are battling to get crops off and late crops in. Pulling machinery out of bogs a daily routine.

I took a run to our local dam Burrendong which peaked at 138% a couple of times as they battle to drop it down to leave capacity for following wet days, some local towns have had low level flooding, following as the Macquarie River runs a banker - a big change from the drought years recently when we went as low as 2%.



I have finally got back to Cars & Coffee, which has moved a few times to a wet weather venue (the shopping mall car park). Council won't let the cars ruin the grass and driveway at the Cenotaph. Beside the fact I was on my own I did have some pleasing comments about the Ute and a couple of offers to buy. I also made the September Fathers Day show and run on Sunday with both vehicles



Some classics at Cars & Coffee



**National Rally Adelaide 2023:** it is getting closer week by week and many of you have booked for a nice slow trip down and I am looking forward to it. Hoping many more can join us but you should book now if you are interested at all. It has been a few years since a good Rally and I would rate Albury/Wodonga, Moss Vale and our own Port Macquarie among the best I have been to. Details can be obtained from all region coordinators.

## **Mudgee Weekend September 23,24,25**

This event is coming up quickly and I hope you are one of the ones booked. Mudgee is a tourist boom town and accommodation runs out fast, there are 15 motels, 3 caravan parks with cabins and a lot of B&Bs; have a search if you are thinking about the weekend. If you are a local, be at the railway station car park for 9.00am Sunday morning; breakfast will be provided by the local Vietnam Veterans group. So much to see and do in this town!

### **Mudgee Programme:**

Friday meet & greet BYO barbecue at the Mudgee Holiday Park, 71 Lions Drive.

Saturday morning short run (26 km) run to Gulgong - lots to see here and rest of the day for personal sight seeing.

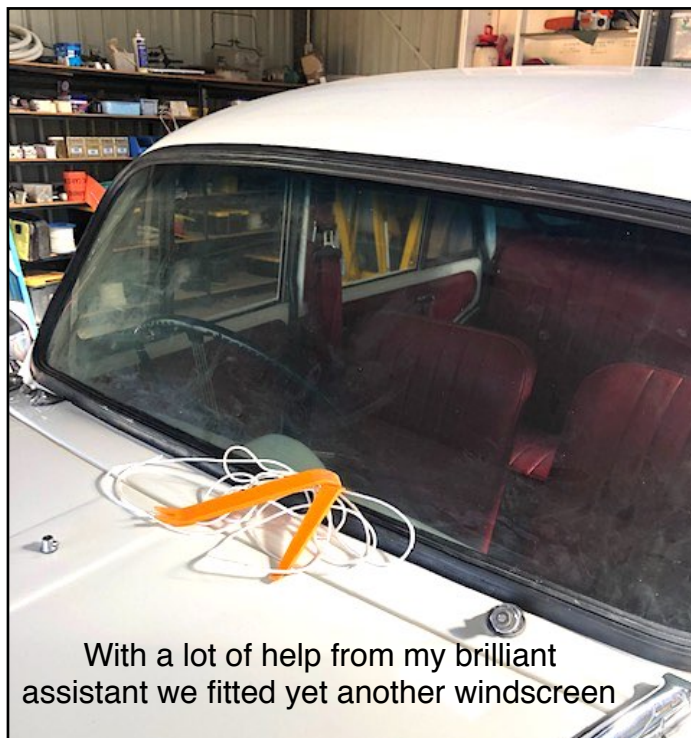
Saturday night Dinner booked at a local hotel

Sunday Show & Shine with Cudgegong Car Club. 9.00am start for Show & Shine at the railway station parking area. Breakfast will be available from the Vietnam Veterans Association who do it regularly as a fund raiser.

**Members Cars** John Ballard Speaking for myself I have finally got my parallel wipers on my Ute sweeping the whole screen - a matter of moving the pin on the wheel and reposition to give 110 degrees.

Also found petrol dripping on the ground after overfilling the tank, the culprit turned out to be the gasket under the sender in the tank. It had literally turned into mush and was the one that came with the new unit, a good petrol resistant paper gasket sheet and a new one was cut.

My white car is undergoing a bit of an overhaul as it was rebuilt 2000-2004 after the wheels were repainted. I started on the front suspension where all new bushes were bought and replaced and the surprise was that wear was nowhere as bad as I had expected; in fact they could have been left in.



With a lot of help from my brilliant assistant we fitted yet another windscreen

Currently working on a two speed wiper and have managed to use a light switch for the two speeds. I am yet to get the park right but I will post it when finished.

Today took both cars to Cars & Coffee for Fathers Day, Sue thought the car missed a couple of times so once home I took it for a run and found it was running very hot on the gauge 220 degrees. The normal checks were done: water, timing, fuel, etc and nothing found. Then a compression check showed number 3 slightly lower, though all good on 'wet' test.

Next the head came off and I found all good including head gasket, but there was a horizontal score around the bore at BDC. So I have now removed the engine and stripped it down, presuming I will get a sleeve as it is already plus 60+. This motor went in in 2006 and has been driven to Sydney many times to all National Rallies since 2009 and never missed a beat.

Cheers for now  
John Ballard  
Central West  
(H) 6882 7753  
(M) 0418638036  
dubbo@morrism  
inornsw.org.au



You know it's cold when the links freeze!