

Western Sydney Historical Truck Club



February 2015

PORTLAND SPRING FAIR & TRUCK SHOW - October 2014



Travelogue and photos by Andy Nash

We arrived at Glenbrook Information Bay at 7am and met up with Bruce Brown, Ron Ross and Brad Dwyer. Brad's truck had a miss, and after a quick coil change we were on our way.

After stopping at Mt. Victoria for "wee wee stop" and drink, we arrived at Portland with just enough time to unload the jeep from Bruce's truck for the street parade. Ann jumped in the jeep with Bruce and to the joy of the kids gave out flags along the way.

After the parade we went back to the showground to check out the stall holders and dancing group. Bruce, Ron and Brad left Saturday arvo to head home. Ann and I stayed for dinner with Bob and MJ from the Western District Truck Club, and 'Fossil' and crew from Dubbo. Dinner was late, everything went wrong, but the meal was nice and dessert was great and so was the music that entertained us. Ann and I stayed at the Black and Gold Motel at Wallerawang which is a converted old school. We found the motel great. The sink was even big enough to fit the jug in! Brekkie was nice and the staff very friendly, and there's plenty of room to park a truck. I would highly recommend it.

On Sunday we went back to Portland for a swap meet. We were also given a guided tour of Portland showing us the old stacks from the cement works. We went onto Mt. Piper Power Station for an informative 1 hour guided tour. I have done deliveries etc. there before, but it was great to take time out to understand how the power station works.

After the tour Barry and Barbara put on a barbecue and MJ supplied cakes to complete another top weekend. From Mt. Piper we headed home and would recommend everyone goes next year.



CONVOY FOR KIDS - GOULBURN - 2014



The "instruction" said to assemble at the Pheasant's Nest Service Centre by 7am. Having picked up my ride at 5.45am we arrived at the destination one hour later. The parking lot was packed to capacity, mostly with club members' trucks. It is a good place for a coffee, a chat and a toilet stop before heading south to the starting line of the Convoy for Kids.

Bruce Brown wanted to get a photo of our team for the club's history before we set off. He used his loud hailer to get everyone together and woke up sleeping truckers in the process.

Afterwards we set off for Goulburn in two separate mini convoys - the older slower trucks left first and the faster ones left just after 8.00.

At the convoy assembly point, vehicles that had hitched a ride on the back of faster trucks were off loaded and made ready to 'convoy'. Truck "No 45", Andy's blue Chev tow truck was put into my care but when it came time to convoy it played hard to start. Andy's gentle voice got the old girl going after a minute or two. Was it a threat about the scrap-yard that got her moving? I don't know and the Chev's not saying! There were 141 trucks including 20 from our club that rumbled down the road, through the town centre and onto the Showground. The crowd lining the main street of Goulburn cheered and waved as the convoy moved slowly past.

At the showground fleet trucks and semi trailers were parked outside on the paddock. Prime movers were located on the bitumen near the function centre. The vintage trucks were parked against the fence near the public area where the hand-crafts and food stalls, entertainment stage and auction trailer were located.



Focus on what's important...

Convoy for Kids 2014 continued...



When I arrived Bruce Brown was already driving kids around the showground collecting donations for the cause. As in previous years there was the Tug-O-war between machine and people. This year the men's, women's and kids teams tried their hand at pulling a bulldog called "MACK"-- a prime mover of extreme weight. The highlight was the kids turn.

Donated goods were auctioned throughout the day to help raise funds for disadvantaged children in the Goulburn area. Bruce collected \$175 on behalf of WSHTC as our part toward the day.



This year one of our club members and one well known associate won awards. ◀The award for "Oldest Working Truck" went to the red R-model MACK owned by Cawdor Haulage and driven by Bill Smith. The award for "Best Vintage Truck" went to the Diamond-T owned and driven by David West. ▶



About 3.30pm people started packing up and getting ready to return home. All in all it was a wonderful day enjoyed by all who took part. Goulburn Convoy for Kids raised \$26,000 for disadvantaged children.



Christmas Party - 2014 @ Darrell Killicks



Sunday 23 November was a hot day...a very hot day. The early birds snapped up the available shade provided by the marquee as soon as they arrived. The rest became nomads parked in a shady spot briefly until the sun moved on. Chappo wore the chef's apron and did a good job of cooking the snags without burning himself. It was late in the afternoon when big black clouds and lightning descended and sent everyone packing off home. It was a good old hot traditional Aussie summer day.

VINEYARD HOTEL MEMORIAL TRUCK SHOW - November 2014



On the last Sunday of November every year, the Vineyard Hotel holds a charity truck show in memory of Hilton Sibthorpe, a truckie who died there many years ago. This year \$1000 was raised in aid of North Rocks Deaf and Blind Association.

A trailer was set up as a stage in front of the hotel and the front and side car parks were filled to capacity with a variety of trucks, cars and bikes.

The day was hot and the bar did a brisk trade quenching some big thirsts. There was a 20 -30 strong vintage truck collection located around the back near the kids jumping castle. Families on their way to the jumping castle stopped to have a sticky beak at the old trucks. It was a fabulous day.



Develop from the negatives...

FIRST BREAKFAST RUN FOR 2015 @ WARRAGAMBA CENTRE



The weather forecaster got it correct - it rained all day. But it didn't dampen the spirits of the 47 people who turned up for the first breaky run for 2015. The parking area was full, mostly every day drivers but there were some vintage trucks present.

Discussions started with catch up of Christmas and New Years festivities before turning to the latest new toys acquired or restoration progress since we last met.

The outdoor kitchen of previous breakies became an indoor event, in the very capable hands of Chef Bruce Brown. He must have done a good job because many people went back for seconds and thirds.

Brad Dwyer updated everyone on the latest requirements concerning historic registered vehicles and documents required in truck when police pull the vehicle over for an inspection.

AUSTRALIA DAY at CAMDEN - 2015



Monday, 26th January 2015 marked 227 years since Captain Arthur Phillip landed on Australian soil. It was also the coldest Australia Day in 50 years.

Australia Day, what can I say...the atmosphere was a buzz with anticipation and excitement. The air was full of humidity and the highways were a blaze with flashing red and blue! The more energetic of Camden residents were out very early, pounding the pavement before the start of the festivities.



Camden Showground was the assembly point for all those taking part in the street parade. Members of the Lions Club of Camden marshalled the wide variety of vehicles into a pre-planned order of appearance for the parade. There were hundreds of vehicles - cars, hotrods, utes, tractors, display floats and trucks. Western Sydney Historical Truck Club had a very good showing of vintage trucks this year. The first cars to arrive were members of the Old Car Social Club at 8am. The last car to arrive and push his way into the parade was Batman in his Batmobile. I only got a photo this year because he had to stop briefly for an adjustment to his seat belt or was it the bat-phone?



Australia Day continued



As in previous years, Bruce Brown decorated the old “Rice Burner” with an Aussie icon. The first year it was the Hills Hoist, last year the Outback Dunny and the Back yard barbecue and this year it was a replica Qantas biplane with pilot dressed in authentic uniform.



Family groups along the parade route waved enthusiastically and cheered as our vintage trucks rumbled by.



Australia Day at Camden was a fabulous day out. Unlike many other venues around Sydney the weather was kind. It was comfortably cool and didn't rain on our parade.



Take another shot !!

Member Profile - Andy Nash

Andy, also known as “The Legend” (in his own mind) spent his early years in Mount Druitt, NSW. He and his two sisters “terrorised” the neighbourhood and he still does today. Andy owns and operates Metropolitan Towing based in Mount Druitt. He is married to Ann and they have a daughter and two sons. Andy has been a club member since 2009.

Andy’s interests are old trucks and, particularly tow trucks - both modern and old!

After leaving school he started serving petrol at a local service station. He has been interested in trucks his whole life but in 2006 he included “old trucks” to his line up of trucking interests.



The first old truck that started his collection is a 1952 Chevrolet NRMA tow truck which remains unrestored but drives reasonably well. It is always present at the various shows that Andy is involved in. He also has a restored 1956 Bedford tow truck and a Dodge D5N 300 currently undergoing restoration. One truck he omitted from his list to me is an International 4x4 that he uses to pull wrecks out of the bush when required by the police. When asked whether he has any plans for future additions to his fleet, it was a short NO!

WARNING - WARNING - WARNING !!

Please note that membership of the Western Sydney Historical Truck Club comes with specific obligations...

For a member to be eligible to get historic vehicle registration for his/her vehicle the member has to earn the right to get it!

In accordance with the Club’s constitution a person must be a member for a 12 month period and take part in several club organised events before registration will be considered.

Do not tell your mates any different as this may offend them when they are told “NO”

The Club’s registration protocol is continually under the scrutiny of the RMS.
Your co-operation would be appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 6 - Sunday 9 February - Highlands Steam & Vintage Fair at Oberon Rugby Leagues Club, Lowes Mount Road, Oberon.

Saturday 7 - Sunday 8 March - Lockhart Antique Machinery and Truck Show. Camping on site, toilet & shower facilities and powered sites available. Saturday night dinner ~ cost gold coin donation. Free Sunday morning breakfast for participants. For further information contact Peter Smith ~ (02) 6920 6246

Sunday 8 March - 9.30am Pre Haulin' the Hume test run for your trucks to iron out any bugs. Meet at the truck checking area, just past the roundabout on the Northern Road, Glenmore Park, past the M4 intersection. Bring lunch and drinks.

Saturday 14 - Sunday 15 March - Truck Muster at Maitland Showground. Let Brad know if you want to go. 0449 186 587

Saturday 21 March - The White Muster at Kyabram Showgrounds, Victoria

Saturday 11 - Sunday 12 April - Haulin' The Hume. Refer to www.wshtc.com.au for details

Sunday 26 April - 42nd General Motors Display Day @ Panthers Grounds, Mulgoa Road, Penrith. Gates open at 8.00am. Enquiries GM Day Committee of NSW phone Ray 9631 6896, Show Day only 0414 631 689

Sunday 3 May - Breaky run 8.30am at Warragamba Centre. Bring \$6, cup and chair. Please let Brad know by Friday for catering purposes. 0449 186 587

Saturday 16 May - Putty Road Truck Drivers Memorial and Reunion - memorial service at Garry E. Miller Park, Milbrodale at 1pm and reunion social night at Singleton Golf Club.

Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 May - Campbelltown Steam & Machinery Museum field days. 9.00am to 3.30pm. 86 Menangle Rd, Menangle. For more information phone 0417 215 513 anytime, answer service connected.

August 2015 - Alice Springs Transport Hall of Fame Reunion ~ For information on planned itinerary for members wanting to drive in convoy to Alice Springs, Phone Brad Dwyer 0449 186 587

Money Matters... advance notice for your diary.

Membership renewal fees are due and payable before 30 June 2015

WANTED: Stories and photos of Members restoration projects for inclusion in the newsletter and the WSHTC website. Tell us the story of when and where you found your project and the journey taken to restore it back to life.

*All contributions for publishing in the next Newsletter can be mailed to
PO Box 369, Plumpton 2761, or emailed to wshtc@rocketmail.com*

Mike Dodds, editor