

Western Sydney Historical Truck Club



January 2020

The Unveiling of the 40 year Razorback Blockade Memorial

The memorial sign at the 40 year Anniversary reads... "The Razorback Truck Blockade of April 1979 has significant place in the history of Australia and mythology of the road transport industry. Ted "Greendog" Stevens, Spencer Watling, Colin Bird, Barry Grimson and Jack Hibbert instigated and led the blockade on the Hume Highway near Picton. Frustrated by the challenges faced by truck drivers, including the oppressive road tax which had been introduced in the 1960's, the men drove their trucks down the Hume Highway to Razorback Mountain and pulled them across the road, blocking it completely.



They were joined by approximately 200 other trucks on Razorback, gaining widespread community support and starting a huge protest which stretched across the country. Sydney ended up being ringed by about 19 blockages and was threatened with food shortages. Private cars and emergency vehicles were allowed through the blockades, but heavier transport vehicles were stopped.

At the time, the road over Razorback was the only route between Sydney and Melbourne. The route was bypassed in December 1980 with the opening of the 35km section of the South Western Freeway between Campbelltown and Yanderra. The Razorback Blockade held strong for nine days and ultimately ended when NSW Premier Neville Wran agreed to scrap the road tax. Ted "Greendog" Stevens spent a lifetime speaking out against the wrongs he felt were faced by the trucking community and stands out as a hero in the history of the road transport industry. He passed away on 11 February 2018, aged 73." □



Did you know? ... daylight saving is causing the drought!

Present at the Official Opening Razorback Memorial Upgrades: Ally Dench, executive Director Community & Corporate, WSC; Mayor Cr Matthew Deeth, WSC; Cr Simon Landow, WSC; Vanessa Toparis, Grants Officer Veolia Mulwaree Trust; Spencer (blockade instigator) & Gloria Watling, Wal Hayes (blockade participant), singer Justin Zelvis (who sang his special song written especially for the event “Greendog Mountain”) and the WSHTC team - Andy Nash, Mike Dodds, Michael Vella, Joe Vella (blockade participant) , Bruce Brown, Geoff Martin, Peter Hand,



David Carter, Bobby Irwin and David West. Having our trucks there, making their presence felt, added to the importance of the event.

Mayor Cr Matthew Deeth addresses the gathering. The WSHTC contingent stand silent sentinel in the background



from L-R Cr Simon Landow; Vanessa Toparis, Spencer Watling, Wal Hayes and Mayor Cr Matthew Deeth



Don't regret those things you can't remember!



Two trucks, in our club, that participated in the blockade in April 1979.



◀ Spencer Watling, one of the original Razorback Blockade instigators and local resident of the Wollondilly Shire has his say, still passionate about the trucking industry and the challenges facing it today.

▼ Ally Dench, Executive Director Community and Corporate (Wollondilly Council) welcomes everyone gathered for the unveiling. The weather played up, as can be seen by all the umbrellas but it wasn't a wash out. In fact it was a successful day, one of reminiscence, catching up with old friends and meeting new ones.



Words have power... Your words can affect others in magical ways.....

Public Risk Policy # AONBWU1FVCC

2019 - 2020 Committee Members

President/ Assistant Registrar	Andy Nash	0418 277 271
Vice President	Darrell Killick	0412 050 224
Secretary/ Newsletter Editor	Mike Dodds	0417 068 144
Treasurer	Brian Hodges	0408 275 754
Registrar	Steve Pardey	0412 646 280
Safety Officer	Ron Ross	4576 3423
Safety & Merchandising Officer	Dave West	0409 724 647
Events & Major Events Coordinator	Michael Vella	0404 011 813
Major Event Coordinator	Bruce Gunter	0459 991 929



Breakfast Meeting at the Campbelltown Steam Museum, Menangle

What a beautiful Sunday morning 20 October was! ...just perfect for one of Lynda Hayward's perfectly cooked barbecued brekky's washed down with a hot coffee in one of the club's 10th Anniversary mugs. Mmmmmmm! For those who don't know, Lynda is a very fussy chef. She hates, with a passion, to be photographed while she is cooking her trade secret delicacies. She wasn't rude to me, but I was told to go away with my camera!! Anyway, Lyndia I hope I got your good side.... ➡

Menangle breakfast meeting continued...

We had a wonderful representation of members and their vintage trucks. Some of them were proud to stand beside their rigs while the shutterbug captured some awesome photos. L-R Phil Longhurst and his super cool blue and white Kenworth, Steve Pardey and his North Western red Aerodyne and Ross Leonard and his International red hot fire truck.



Plus....other members trucks



There was an enormous display of stationary Engines - kerosene powered and steam driven, Steam traction engines, steam train, military vehicles, vintage cars, model boats, tractors and agricultural equipment and our vintage trucks. Surprisingly there was a vast number of caravans camped on the grounds but not on display....



◀ Not quite sure what is happening here....May be too many cooks spoiling the broth or too many chiefs not enough Indians...

Michael Vella, at a younger age, practising his driving skills in the driveway. ▶



and remedying it! This sentiment is true in many aspects of life,...

Club Merchandise...

Merchandise must be paid for at the time of ordering from David West. You can pay cash or EFT directly into the club's bank account -

BSB 032371 Account 396047. Please include your name and member ID number as a reference.

When making an EFT payment please advise Treasurer Brian Hodges of the payment, either by a text message to his mobile 0408 275 754, or emailed to fjhodges@bigpond.com ...Brian will supply you with a receipt which you must show to David when you collect your order. If you don't have a receipt from Brian, then you cannot claim your merchandise.

David has a supply of shirts that were ordered up to 12 months ago. If you have ordered a shirt, but not received it yet, please contact David on 0409 724 647.

Make sure you have a receipt of payment to claim your shirt. If you do not have a receipt, contact Brian on 0408 275 754

The following club merchandise is available for purchase:

Polo Shirts	- \$35.00 each - sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL
Jackets	- \$60.00 each - sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL
Windscreen Stickers	- \$4.00 each
Baseball caps	- \$15.00 each
Number plate frames	- \$15.00 per pair
Name badges	- \$10.00 each
10th Anniversary mugs	- \$20.00 each

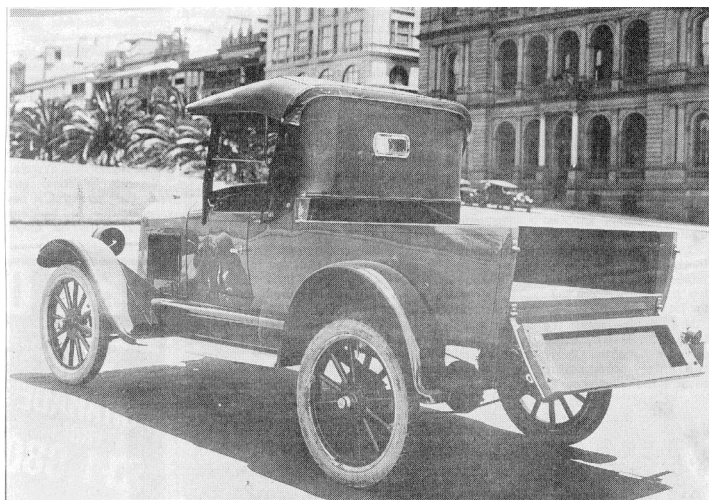
Which Ute was First?

"FORD has always claimed credit for the invention of the ute, but General Motors-Holden has a definite contender for the title.

Ford's Lew Bandt designed coupe utility was introduced in 1934, but a special version of a Chevrolet roadster called the Standard Utility Delivery actually hit the Australian roads some 10 years earlier. The Chev ute was produced in the 1920's by Sydney Body Builders and as this recently discovered 1925 photograph shows it meets the generally accepted criteria on what constitutes a utility.

It's a car-based vehicle with flush sides, an open tray and drop-down tailgate, but has a fabric roof — Ford's later version had a steel roof.

Chevy's coupe ute is very much an Australian original and was developed to satisfy farmer's requests.



They wanted a versatile vehicle with workhorse capacity and passenger comfort; something they could take out into the paddock or into town with equal ease.

For all its present day technological sophistication, today's Holden Ute follows in the same tradition — the latest in a hard working Holden line stretching back to 1951".



⇨ **GM's contender for the "first ute" title . . . An Australian original, developed to satisfy farmers' requests**

...None more so than healthcare! Words have extreme power!!

Did you find all the deliberate mistakes in the previous issue of the newsletter - Volume 8 issue 5??

Here's the clues.....

- P1. A truck parked upside down on the base of the bottom left photo...
- P2. top photo, the two helicopters that never flew over the Clarendon Classic 2019...
- P2. A truck, parked vertically, leaning against the right side of the middle photo...
- P4. second paragraph, the word "cheep" should be spelt "cheap" .
- P5. bottom right corner — A place to find a prize that does not exist!



Now for some unintended errors, advised to the editor after printing.

- P4. and P6. Change to David West's phone number...mobile 0409 724 647...
- P6. The cost of Name badges should read \$10.00 each.

2019 Convoy for Kids - Goulburn

With Goulburn's weather you have to be prepared for all seasons, because it will change in a couple of minutes. It was very cool to begin with, but get out of the sun and the wind which had built up by the time I had arrived, froze me to the bone, and I wasn't the only one. As the sun woke up properly, it turned out to be a very pleasant day...

I left home at 6.00am so I would not miss the start of the 2019 Convoy For Kids, Goulburn. I thought my timing schedule was going OK... OK, that is, until a green CO Kenworth whizzed past my little red truck so fast, I nearly lost the side mirrors in the gush of wind. Trying to keep up with him was useless. He obviously didn't want to be last to arrive. Apparently that was reserved for me. He was parked up in line with other WSHTC trucks by the time I arrived to register my entry - ten minutes before the start of the convoy. My entry number was 203, a hand written scrawl on the reverse side of someone's shopping list. I guess the total entries had exceeded the organisers expected number of convoy trucks. I must have had the last number because by the time I got my paperwork the convoy was already on the move.



Our members' trucks parked against the fence

Those who don't believe in magic, will never find it!

The lead truck this year was a vintage 1940's Chev, owned by Divals. It was followed in the convoy by about 20+ trucks, also owned by Divals.

We had a good roll up of 23 members and their trucks, which were parked up against the fence or together with other Kenworth prime-movers, as in previous years.

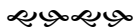


This year, Phil Longhurst won the trophy for the "Best Overall Truck" and Michael Vella won the trophy for the "Best CAT Powered Kenworth".

Congratulations to you both.



The numbers of trucks, stalls and people at the showground seemed far smaller than the previous few years. There was not the usual auction. There weren't the usual familiar faces either. Maybe this could be the effect of the drought, or maybe the format change covering both days of the weekend and CFK being run by new people. It will be interesting to see what happens next year .



The Kenworths of: (L-R) Rob Paul, Joe Vella, Phil Longhurst, Michael Vella & Dave Carter



▲
The crowd wasn't large
as in previous years

Sometimes the fastest way isn't the best way...

The WSHTC CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday 1st December at Hubertus Club

BY NOELENE WEST

WSHTC members and partners, children and friends, 52 in total, gathered at the Hubertus Club at Luddenham for a Christmas lunch. We were seated in a separate room as the club was full. There was another huge Christmas party there for children. There must have been six hundred cars and “eleventy” hundred families.

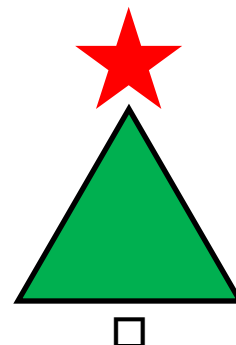
Most members had to park quite some distance away but the club had provided a golf buggy to transport guests, which was appreciated.

We were provided with a three course meal. A prawn cocktail, followed by a main meal of ham, turkey and baked assorted vegetables and, Christmas pudding and custard for dessert, coffee and tea. Very tasty and the service was excellent.

There were many true lies and tall stories shared on the day! Several members bought club shirts and merchandise.

Andy Nash thanked Brian Hodges and Michael Vella for their efforts to make this another successful and enjoyable Club event. Well done to the organising committee.

Have a merry Christmas and happy New Year!



...Sometimes the best things in life take a while

5 January - First Breakfast Meeting for 2020

I left home expecting thick smoke haze but the sky was clear at 6.30am. But my thoughts were a bit premature. As I climbed the hill into Wallacia, I was met by a wall of thick orange-grey smoke that obscured every bend along the road to Warragamba. I eventually arrived at 8am to see Dave West, Bobby Irwin, Geoff Martin and Charlie Xerri industriously setting up the barbecue and associated bits and pieces. They even took turns doing the cooking. Thanks guys for stepping up and helping out. Our regular chefs, Bruce and Lynda were away. Lynda was at home protecting her property from the fires. By the time the sausages started to sizzle the smoke haze had lifted to a bright and hot, sunny day. Everyone attending had been affected by the recent bush fires and, in one way or another, it was a part of every discussion.

Brian Hodges (member of Nelson RFS) who had been up until midnight fighting fires and, who was still on call, did his club treasurer's duties before leaving in case he was called to battle more fires.

There was a good roll-up of members and friends, with a great showing of trucks, including an Essex ute ▼ and, a few cars.



▲ Isn't it strange... Every time you want to take a candid photo of a group of hungry people, there's always one person who just wants to stare down the lens of the camera and pull a face??

◀ This special Kenworth is just so fast it needs a specially designed hydraulic air-dam braking system to slow it down!!

Today is the perfect day to just be happy



Australia Day - 26th January 2020

Wilberforce: About 7.30am it was hot and very humid, . It was heating up by the minute and without any noticeable breeze, it was becoming quite uncomfortable. We had 11 members present. Despite numbers of cars, bikes and trucks on display and, the public being down on 2019, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.



Camden:



Camden was also hot & humid. There were about 12 members present. The RFS led the street parade and joined in again tagging on the end, behind the WSHTC trucks. Everyone had a great time.



*Things end. People leave. Time passes. Memories fade. Feelings change...
And you know what? Life goes on!!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 8 February - Mangrove Mountain Classic Truck, Car & Machinery Show at Mangrove Mountain Recreation Reserve, Cnr Waratah & Wisemans Ferry Rd. \$10.00 entry fee donation for historic trucks. Further Information contact Dallas Fabian 0417 285 047

Saturday 15 Sunday 16 February Gnoo Blas "60 years of V8 Touring Cars in Australia" classic car & truck show at Sir Jack Brabham Park, Forest Road, Orange. Camping available also food and refreshments. Contact Denis Gregory 0417 445 426 or Paddy Ward 0419 848 300

Saturday 29 February - Gundagai Tractor Pull & Swap Meet. Gundagai Showground. Enquiries: Joanne Miller 0404 892 511

Saturday 7 March - Lockhart Truck Show at Lockhart Showground at 10.00am. For registrations and further information contact peter Smith on (02)6920 6246 or 0458 422 808. Joy Shultz 0428 566 902. email coinda75@bigpond.com

Sunday 15 March - Harden Truck & Tractor Show at Murrumburrah Harden Show Grounds, Woolrych Street, Murrumburrah. Exhibitors free entry. Camping available on site. Free BBQ Saturday night for exhibitors staying overnight. Further Information contact Kevin Sharp 6386 5136 or mob. 0413 027 932

Sunday 15 March - Brekky Run at Blacktown City Show at Blacktown Showground, Richmond Road, Blacktown. Free entry for drivers and passengers of historic trucks displayed in the show. Set up time 7.30am. Stay for the usual breakfast get together or stay for the whole day. Please contact Andy 0416 869 464 or Bruce 0428 545 328 for catering purposes.

Sunday 22 March - Oakville Bush Fire Brigade Car Show at Pitt town Sporting Club, 139 Old Pitt town Rd, Pitt Town. Shows & displays start at 10.00am. \$10 vehicle entry.

Saturday 21 - Sunday 22 March - Mack Muster at Kyabram Showgrounds, Allen Street, Kyabram, Victoria. Further info. contact Dave Willis 0428 692 753; John Laffan 0427 484 247; Tim Daws 0458 868 988

Saturday 28 - Sunday 29 March - "Crawlin' The Hume" Relive the old route 31 along the Hume Highway from Campbellfield, Victoria to Albury, NSW. For more info call Robert French 0409 390 090 or Trevor Davis 0419 506 516.

Saturday 4 - Sunday 5 April - Vintage Truck & Machinery Show at Glen Innes Showgrounds. For information, Steven 0427 321 168

Saturday 16 May - Putty Road Truck Drivers Memorial and 10th Anniversary Reunion. Memorial service at Garry E. Miller Park, Milbrodale at 1.00pm and reunion social night at The Hotel/Motel, Maitland Road, Singleton. For further information phone Paul Crollick 0408 472 250; Shane Kent 0419 287 159; Marie Warby 0414 631 206

Sunday 17 May - Brekky Run at Campbelltown Steam & Machinery Museum - Oil, Steam & Kerosene Field Days. 86 Menangle Road, Gilead. Bring \$6.00, chair, cup/mug. Please contact Bruce 0428 545 328 or Andy 0416 869 464

Saturday 26 June - Tamworth "Show n' Shine" Truck Show at the Equine Centre. Entry cost \$25.00 per truck. Set up Friday. All trucks will be displayed undercover and will be locked up overnight. Dinner dance and auction at the Leagues Club Saturday night. Accommodation at the Mecure Hotel attached to the Leagues Club. For further info contact Michael Vella 0404 011 813

*All contributions for publishing in the next Newsletter can be mailed to
PO Box 3140, Rouse Hill 2155, or emailed to wshtctrucks01@gmail.com*