

Coffs Splutter

July 2025

**COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB
INC.**

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**Incoming President, Graham Davey, presenting Eric Andrews with the 'Club
Person of the Year' Award at the 2025 Changeover Dinner.**

(Photo: Alfie Hambling)

COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB

2025-2026

*Life Members — Geoff Maunder, John Lansley, Des Drury, Bob Dixon & Keith Winkler
(dec.)*



Dear Members,

I am excited to introduce a new section in our newsletter: *The President's Corner*.

This will be a space where I will share updates from the club, reflections from recent events, a peek at what is coming up, and the occasional thought on what drives our passion for cars.

**Graham Davey
President, CHVVCCC**

I have been a member of this car club for 19 years and I remember when I first started it was difficult to get to know people in the club and often, I felt like a square peg trying to fit into a round hole. Over time I decided to go on as many of the car runs as I could. This slowly allowed me to get to know more members and their interests which in turn gave me the confidence to feel that I belong to a group of people whose passion in cars was the same as mine.

I understand it is not always easy to 'break in' to an established group, but you are welcome, and we want you to join with us in as many club events and runs as you can as this may help you to feel more confident and valued as a member of our car club.

Club Meetings: General Meetings are held at the Boambee East Community Centre (30 Bruce King Drive, Boambee East) at 7.00 pm on the first Thursday of each month except for January when no meeting is normally held.

Club Fees: A joining fee of \$5.00 applies. Annual fees are \$45.00 for a Single Membership, \$50.00 for a Family Membership, \$15.00 for a Junior Membership and \$10.00 for Associate Membership. Fees are due on 1st January each year for the calendar year. However, as membership of an approved car club is an RMS requirement for Concessional Registration of vehicles, annual fees for members seeking registration of cars in the following year are payable at the Rego Day, normally the third Sunday in November. For members joining the Club after 30 June each year, half annual fees will apply.

Club Newsletter: A full-colour copy of the Club's newsletter "Coffs Splutter" is emailed to all members with a valid email address registered with the Club. For an annual fee of \$15.00 (payable to the Treasurer) a member may arrange to have a printed B/W copy delivered by Australia Post to an address of their choice.

All articles appearing in "Coffs Splutter" are the sole responsibility of the author(s) as to matters of fact and veracity.

July for Jeep

A few months back it was at end of the day when my friend and I decided to visit Lloyd's Auctioneers down Hi-Tech Drive in Toormina to see what interesting cars may be there. Funnily enough, we did see an interesting classic car, which we found out off one of the staff that it was a 1989 Jeep Grand Wagoneer.

Jeep's Concise Story

Jeep was born during the onset of World War II, as the Allies waged war against the Axis, is when Willy's, in 1943, came up with the brilliant idea to create a small 4x4 that could go practically anywhere. The Willy's Jeep was then used as the United States no.1 military vehicle during the rest of the war and in the postwar years after that.

But It was only after the war when Jeep branched out into the car market and started to explore the idea of cars that could be used by civilians. In 1950 Jeep became a trademark name of Willy's, and started to release their first cars, like the CJ-5. Jeep even started making trucks, like the FC-150 and FC-170.

In the 1962, Jeep released two new cars, these were the Utilitarian Gladiator, and the Luxurious Grand Wagoneer. While the Gladiator would have a shorter runtime and would only be marketed until 1971. However, the Grand Wagoneer would have a very long run indeed, when it was only discontinued in 1991.

After two years since the Grand Wagoneer was discontinued another Jeep model managed to score a role in the movie Jurassic Park as the main security cars. It was the Jeep Wrangler, which started in 1986 and ceased production in 1995. A later, and more modern version has since come out.

Back to 2025, where my friend and I then visited about a week or two later, and found out that the car had been moved to a spot in the showroom, where I managed to get a snapshot of the V8 engine. A later visit and the car was gone. A query to the staff who informed us that a keen buyer bought the car, which then went to Western Australia. The car supposedly sold in the mid 20 grands.

Article & Photo's by Alfie 'Grand Wagoneerer' Hambling

References:

Jeep's History: <https://www.jeep.com.au/history.html>

Jeep Wiki Page: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeep>



The Front end of the Grand Wagoneer out the back of the shop



An Interior view of the drivers seat



The Rear end of the car



Left: The Grand Wagoneer in the shop display room, with a Rolls Royce style hood emblem
Right: The Grand Wagoneer's engine, a 'Gas Guzzler' as my Dad said once as I showed him the photo...



Car Club Changeover Dinner Sunday 15th June 2025

It was a good time at the Sawtell RSL , our new venue for the Changeover Lunch after the Seaview Tavern, and also being on the day of our usual Sunday Run.

The Outing started when gradually members came through the door at 12pm, and of course located where our dedicated space was for our event taking place. After everyone was settled in we started to order, where a good long queue formed. All members did indeed receive their food, and much topics were discussed, like the Coffs Jetty Foreshore developments, and of the turmoil in the US with the Donald Trump presidency.

One particular thing I learned from these discussions was the fact from Geoff that when you are older, one must have to put on their seat-belt before starting the car, otherwise one fails the test in an instant without exceptions. So some advice to those that read this to remember that before you go for your yearly drivers, whenever that may be. There is also the rule to grip the steering wheel with both hands at all times.

After most members had finished their meals, Glenn and Jenny's Granddaughter tested out the mic before our incoming President Graham Davey spoke to the crowd. Graham then took to the mic and then proclaimed Eric Andrews as the winner of the Member of the year Award.

Graham then presented the Hard Luck Award to Jim Fisher, who later said to me upon asking how he felt receiving the accolade: "Well I didn't expect it, I was very surprised"

No Stirrers Award was given out as the proper candidate had yet to be decided, and the award had somehow gone missing.

All members then afterwards continued to mingle and chat. I learnt another fact from Kevin Franklin, who inquired as to whether I knew a grandson and granddaughter of his. I indeed did, someone who I knew from my old academic days some few years back. I also managed to have a nice sticky date pudding with ice cream beside as dessert.

The clock then moved to a time past two where the last of the members headed off. I managed to hitchhike a ride with Dad as he picked me up at 2:30pm in the main street, where we then stopped at a friends nearby, and headed home.

No photos were taken of the historic cars (if there were any) as we were all inside the RSL, but I managed to hear from Heinz about his Borgward stationed in the car, and snapshot two photo's of Kevin and Moira's Mercedes 220.

A huge shoutout and thank you to Hal and Marg Murray for allowing me to be roving reporter, and for securing the ropes of organising the event.

Attendance: Barry, Geoff and Leonie, Judy, Graeme and Andy King, Leigh and Carol Stevens, Carol Horner, Hal and Marg, Jim, Peter and Nerida, Kevin and Moira, John and Lorraine Bojarski, Des and Maureen, John and Lorraine Lansley, Zeno, Pauline and Gavin, Graham and Marie Davey, Brett, Eric and June, Glenn Miller, Ian, Russell, Glenn and Jenny Campbell with Granddaughter, Heinz and Dorothy and myself.

Article and photos by roving reporter Alfie Hambling



***Jim gains his Hard Luck Trophy,
which he was very surprised to earn***



Kevin and Moira's Mercedes 220 Sedan



Fellow Members Enjoying the food and scenery of the Sawtell RSL



Link Cafe Coffee Run - Thursday 19 Jun 2025

The return to fine weather of the past few weeks has continued and a very pleasant weather day was enjoyed at the Link Café. The café is now under new management and is vastly superior to the old regime. It was noted that the area is now very popular, and parking was at a premium, with some spread out and parking some distance away. There is apparently a car park at the rear of the nursing home, accessed to the West from Sawtell Road.

Many lively discussions were conducted. There were, however, only a small number of elderly vehicles present, and due to the spread not all were located for photos. Cars noted included: The famous FJ Holden, NSU Prinz, BMW 318, Triumph Dolomite and MGB GT.



The assembled group at Link included, Leigh and Carol, Ian and Carol, Jim and Wendy, Des, Graeme and Lynn, Hal and Marg, Glen, Graham and myself.

Another pleasant morning enjoyed by all.

Report & photos by Graeme Wright



Minutes -Meeting of the Coffs Harbour Veteran, Vintage and Classic Car Club

Thursday 3rd July 2025

Meeting opened: 7.01pm.

Attendance: As per Attendance Book= 34

Apologies: Gerry De Gabriel, Moira and Kevin Franklin, Rob Sutton, Judy Riddel, Zeno Baston, Alan Southgate and Chris Cassilles

Visitor: Ted Fitzgerald

Minutes of last meeting: The minutes, as printed in the magazine were accepted as representing a true and accurate record of the June 2025 meeting.

Moved: Marg Murray

Seconded

Sharon Moppett

Carried

Guest Speaker: Nil

Business arising from June 2025 Minutes/AGM: - Signatories for Bank Account No 39278

Motion: *The present signatories for the BCU account No 39278 for The Coffs Harbour Veteran, Vintage and Classic Car Club(CHVVCCC) are : Geoff Maunder, Graeme King, Marg Murray and Hal Murray. It is moved that Graeme King and Hal Murray be deleted as signatories and Graham Davey (President) and Pauline Woodward (Treasurer) be added as signatories. The four signatories will be: Marg Murray (Secretary-existing), Geoff Maunder (Management committee-existing), Graham Davey(President-new) and Pauline Woodward (Treasurer-new). This will mean that for the CHVVCCC BCU Account No 39278, (this is all accounts under this member number), will be any 2 to sign.*

Moved: G Kane

Seconded: B Moppett

Carried

Correspondence In:

- 17 Magazines
- **Invites:** Country Music Muster 16th Feb 2026 Macksville,
- Nomination for Graeme Kane-Life Membership
- Membership enquiries x 2
- Sawtell Club fee waiver
- Invoice for Boambee Community Centre
- Funeral Request
- Dept. of Fair Trading Financial Reporting Changes-
- Dinkum Oil 33 CHMC

Correspondence Out:

- Reminder to members: Re event arrangement, Management Committee Meeting, George Perkins Funeral, John Hewitt
- Email enquiries response
- Thank you to Graeme King
- Get well Laraine Bojarski

Business arising from correspondence- Funeral request referred to Coffs Ex club

Correspondence Moved: Marg Murray

Seconded: Hal Murray

Carried

Treasurers Report: -

No treasurers report as Pauline does not have access to accounts until signatory changes are approved by BCU.

Events Reports

Past Events

June

- Thursday 5th AGM
- Saturday 7th -Moonee Beach-Jim ph. 0481131551
- Sunday 15th-Changeover Dinner Sawtell RSL - 43 members attended and by all accounts it was an enjoyable day. The Sawtell RSL Club kindly waived their hiring fees.
- Thursday 19th-Coffee run to Donovan's Link Cafe Graeme W -good venue and the parking issues is resolved as there is a larger carpark at the rear of the cafe.

Upcoming Events

JULY

- Thursday 3rd General Meeting
- Saturday 5th Dragons Abreast Biggest Morning Tea ,Myslestown -Geoff. ph. 0435 622 394
- Thursday 17th Coffee Run to Nambucca Boatshed -Graeme ph0408 245 113
- Sunday 20th Morning tea followed by picnic lunch at Jeff Eggins to view Grey Fergie Collection - 298
Sherwood Creek Rd Upper Corindi. -Gerry 0402 469 160
- Sunday 27th Glenreagh Timberfest (Glenreagh Showground) Drive independently and arrive at 8.30am. Car and Driver free entry. CANCELLED

AUGUST

- Saturday 2nd Afternoon tea -Woolgoolga Lake Hal
- Thursday 7th Club Meeting-
- Sunday 10th August Rotary Car Show-call Bob 0411727255 or Mitch 0466376903 (from Rotary) to register your car to display on the day.
- Sunday 17th Run to Urunga – Lunch at Ex Services Club TBA
- Thursday 21st Coffee Run to Marine Conservation Park Hal

General Business:

1. Marg is updating the phone numbers list for members-so if you have changed your phone etc please let her know.
2. Publicity Officer Position-
John Lansley nominated Graham Davey for the position of public officer.
Moved John Lansley Seconded: Brett Moppett Carried
- 3.Graham Davey gave a brief explanation of the constitution rules for nominating Life Members. There was some discussion over the status of Graeme Kane's nomination. Graham stated the written nomination had now been received and the nomination would be voted on at the next AGM.
- 4.Graeme Kane will report back to August meeting re purchasing a defibrillator for the club.
- 5.Steve Heelis let us know that his parents, Beryl and Pete Heelis have both been admitted to Belligen Hospital. Pete had a fall, and Beryl has had a stroke. They can have visitors. Both are highly regarded, long term members of our club.
6. Members agreed that we should participate in the Rotary Car Show on 10th August. (see info above).
7. Alfie has done research on the new northern highway. He has suggested that it would be safer for our cars to travel north for our runs, on Solitary Island Way.
8. Congratulations Marie Davey on the new history book.

Vehicle Movements: Nil

Raffle Winners: 1. June Andrews 2. Ted Fitzgerald 3. John Lanslev

Next Meeting: Thursday 7th August

Guest Speaker: to be advised

Supper for August: William and Des

Meeting Closed at: 7.40 pm

Vale George Perkins



Members were saddened to learn of the passing of former member George Perkins recently. George was laid to rest in Coffs Harbour on 30th June.

George was an active participant in the club, usually driving his Jaguar and accompanied by his partner, Gloria.

THE FORD FLIVVER

The Ford Flivver was a single seat light aircraft that was built in 1926 at the behest of Henry Ford. His only stipulation was that it be small enough to fit into his office. The just completed first prototype was unveiled on July 30, 1926. It was flown regularly by Ford's chief test pilot, Harry J. Brooks. The tiny aircraft was designed to be "every-man's aircraft" just as Henry's Model T was "every-man's automobile". The Ford Flivver inspired a New York Evening Sun columnist to write a poem about it:

*I dreamed I was an angel
And with the angels soared
But I was simply touring
The heavens in a Ford.*

Charles Lindbergh was invited to fly one of the prototypes at one point. After his flight he proclaimed the Flivver to be, "one of the worst aircraft he ever flew". Brooks had a Flivver prototype modified so he could try for long distance record for light aircraft. The flight was to be from Dearborn, Michigan to Miami, Florida. He made a forced landing in Titusville, Florida where he repaired a bent prop and then spent the night after which he again set off to continue his flight. While at Titusville he had jammed toothpicks in the vent holes of his fuel cap to prevent condensation from entering the tank overnight. When he left the next morning on his flight he had forgotten to remove them. His Flivver crashed in the ocean off Melbourne, Florida due to fuel starvation due to the blocked air vents. Brooks' body was never found although the aircraft later washed up on shore. Henry Ford was so devastated by the death of a favoured employee that he pulled the plug on development of the Ford Flivver.



For Sale

1976 Triumph Dolomite Sprint. In very good condition

\$18,000 or near offer. For further information and photos please call John 0411 624 566



1997 Pontiac FireBird TransAM

5.7 litre V8 fuel injected engine. A true American Muscle Car “built to impress.” Drives with true conviction. Surprisingly good on fuel. Targa roof convertible!

Automatic, RH Drive conversion with compliance number. A/cond, tape deck/radio.

Same owner for 26 years. Only used over the past 15 years as a show vehicle and occasional Sunday drives. Previously used as our main vehicle. Mechanically maintained by mechanical husband of owner. Full rego to 19/4/25

Asking price \$38,000 for a vehicle that will give you so much more in return.

Phone owner: Loretta Rigby 0427 580226



FOR SALE: 1989 Mercedes 190E9A. Automatic. 205,400 km on odometer. Good tyres including spare & new battery. Runs well. Out of rego but has a current pink slip. \$4,500 or near offer. Phone Arthur on 6655 1897 for enquiries.

COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB

All runs depart from Coffs Airport, Aviation Drive, Coffs Harbour (100m south of Dakota Drive intersection – Note please use northern entrance off Hogbin Drive),

- 1st Saturday outings depart **1.30pm**. Please take afternoon tea.
- 3rd Sunday outings depart **9.30am**. Please take morning tea and lunch.
- 3rd Thursday coffee runs depart **9.30am**.

- Please check individual run details for any variations. If you are not meeting at the designated start or running late, please notify the run organiser, just in case there is a change to the run plan, or the club needs to provide café attendance numbers.
- Please drive with consideration to other road users (so we do not create queues behind us).
- Leave a reasonable distance between vehicles.
- When coming to a turn, ensure the car behind you is aware of the turnoff.
- **H registered vehicles must have the "Permit to Operate" in the vehicle at all and a copy of this Approved Events page on all runs.**

UPCOMING APPROVED CLUB EVENTS (no Log Book entry Required):

JULY 25		
Thursday 17 th	Coffee Run to Nambucca Boatshed	Graeme 0408 245 113
Sunday 20 th	Morning tea followed by picnic lunch at Jeff Eggins to view Grey Fergie Collection - 298 Sherwood Creek Rd Upper Corindi	Gerry 0402 469 160
AUGUST 25		
Saturday 2 nd	Afternoon tea -Woolgoolga Lake	Hal
Thursday 7 th	Club Meeting	
Saturday 10 th	Rotary Car Show- Level-1 undercover carpark - Park Beach Plaza, Coffs Harbour. Display and entrant arrival and setup times - 6am - 9.30am. call Bob 0411 727 255 or Mitch 0466 376 903 (from Rotary) to register your car to display on the day	See details left
Sunday 17 th	Run to Urunga – Lunch at Ex Services Club	TBA
Thursday 21 st	Coffee Run to Marine Conservation Park	Hal

