

Wheels Of Time



People at the Riverside Markets admiring the Beautiful cars..
Kempsey Macleay Valley rally 2026

PRESIDENTS REPORT – Colin Trusler

Well, what a month it has been, following our last meeting the outing to Wauchope, visiting Rockets Collection of vehicles and memorabilia, with a excellent morning tea to follow, provided by Rocket.

We moved onto the shed of David Hayes, another experience well worth the visit, both of them have some interesting tales to tell and some magnificent cars which they have performed miracles on, there are some highly skilled people out there, if you didn't come along, you certainly missed something special.

Lunch at the Beechwood hotel is always good value. Plus, we had a good interaction with the Mid Coast Ford Club who were having lunch there as well. Our main event of the year now being called “Kempsey Macleay Valley Rally, was held over the 2nd & 3rd May, Yes it was a very good event, I will not steal Neville's report, he can update you on the result .

The number of club members attending was disappointing. I know our lives do not totally evolve around KMARC, but we only had 17 cars on display, we have a total of 78 memberships, which could result in 78 vehicles being available, we did not even have a quarter of our members participating. Please if you have any ideas on how we can raise your enthusiasm to become involved, let any of our committee members know your thoughts, remember it is our club! We should all work together to keep the cogs oiled so to speak.





Bowsers galore at David Hayes 's place



One of Ron Turnbull's beauties waiting for some attention.



Hars & Kmarc members enjoying the wonderful morning tea provided by Ron Turnbulls daughters. **Below.** These 2 ladies were hanging around in the back of David's garage.



Saturday 18th April, trip to

Wauchope to see two Hastings Auto Restorers members collections of memorabilia.

Leaving South Kempsey we travelled to Ron Turnbull's for morning tea ,his family had baked and cooked the day before. Many thanks to Ron and his daughter for a beautiful morning tea .

Then Ron took us into his workshop garage which housed many cars ,all of which Ron could tell the history off.

Ron owned the service station and garage which was opposite the Clock tower in Wauchope..

You only had to be with Ron for a short time to find out he was a great talker with much knowledge about cars..

After leaving Rons we travelled To David Hayes's, I remember a day I had with David and the Hastings Auto Restorers club prior to this event, it was to Manning Point to see a magnificent private collection of cars and BP collectables .the Owner had BP franchises in NSW & Vic.

Back to David Hayes's Collection of cars and heaps of memorabilia items.

Those who came to this years rally would remember his restored 1934 Packard restored to showroom condition .Yes, he took out the most desirable car at our show and shine .

After leaving David's we travelled to lunch at the Beechwood Hotel with some the Hastings Auto Restorers members.

We donated a something from the Vickers fudge factory

Wauchope as a lucky door prize.

On the day I couldn't miss an opportunity to meet members of the Mid North Coast Ford Owners Club, who were having lunch

At the hotel. I gave them some flyers and rally entry forms .we had at least one entry from the Club this year and they are a great contact for us, they are holding a Motorfest at Wauchope Show Ground in November we hope a lot of our members will attend.

A great day was had by all on a top sunny day with friends in the car clubs..

From Neville and Anne in the Red Merc.

Imagine we lived in a world where all cars were EVs, and then along comes a new invention, the "Internal Combustion Engine"! Think how well they would sell: A vehicle half the weight, half the price that will almost quarter the damage done to the road. A vehicle that can be refuelled in 1/10th of the time and has a range of up to 4 times the distance in all weather conditions. It does not rely on the environmentally damaging use of non-renewable rare earth elements to power it, and use far less steel and other materials.

Just think how excited people would be for such technology, it would sell like hot cakes!



Kempsey Macleay Valley rally cars and people at the Air Port open day.

There will be lots more photos from the rally on the website. You will notice only one from the Riverside markets that was my fault I forgot to appoint a photographer, that has been rectified for next year.

Now we have our reports from away.

Laurie McGrath Re: Kempsey Rally 2026

On Saturday 2nd May 2026 my wife Marcia and I travelled to Kempsey and attended the Kempsey Macleay valley car club two day rally. We had not participated in a Kempsey rally for some years. When we departed Port Macquarie in our Rover there was a drizzle of rain, however this cleared as we approached Kempsey. The rally commenced at the Riverside Market in Kempsey where there were some 25 vintage and classic cars on display in the adjoining car park to the market. Kempsey club members had set up a registration site under a gazebo in the car park. We booked in and obtained a bag of goodies including our allocated car number. We took a walk about the market. The ground was a little soggy from rain during the night.

We had our own morning tea and lunch with old friends Bruce and Dawn Coker under a tree near our parked cars. A great morning of fellowship catching up with old friends. At 1.30pm together with a number of participants we departed in our historic cars following Neville Schmidt on a tour to Bellbrook. Just west of Willawarrin we all pulled off the road at a lookout where Neville gave a very interesting talk on the Macleay valley. Marcia and I decided to return to our motel in Kempsey as we were both suffering from the effects of the flu. The group continued onto Bellbrook where I was told they enjoyed a beer in the pub before returning to Kempsey. We had a restful afternoon in our motel.

At 5.30pm the Kempsey Heights bowling club courtesy bus picked us up at the Park Drive motel together with a number of rally participants and conveyed us to the Kempsey Heights bowling club.

The club bistro served a scrumptious two course meal followed by a large serving of sweets. An auction was conducted selling various items donated by people and businesses in the area. I am led to believe some \$2000 was raised from the auction,.

Money from the auction, donations and the raffle was donated to the wonderful charity 'Little Wings'. Prizes were then distributed to various rally participants.

At 9.00am the next day Sunday 3rd May we drove to Kempsey Airport and displayed our cars at the airport family fun day where there was also an air show. The weather was not the best, cloudy with a few showers of rain falling. However the air show was fantastic with Scott Bennett flying his aerobatic aero plane in incredible manoeuvres. The model jet aero planes were also an interesting feature of the air show. It was 2.00pm when we departed the airport and returned home to Port Macquarie. A good weekend, Neville and Anne and their helpers are to be congratulated on the success of the weekend. Laurie McGrath .

From a person not so far away.

Barbara Hicks report for Kempsey Macleay Valley Rally 2026

What a wonderful weekend KMARC. You have once again hosted a great event in the Macleay Valley. Thanks to the amazing team of people who work tirelessly to make the rally possible. A big thank you to all the sponsors who kindly donated so that we can support Little Wings. We started the weekend with a display of cars in conjunction with riverside markets at riverside park followed by a great night at Kempsey heights bowling club where we had an enjoyable dinner followed by the auction and presentation. Also as in previous years we were joined by wonderful people from other clubs.

Neville's Kempsey Macleay Valley Rally re- port 2026.

Thank you to all those who worked hard as a team to make the Kempsey Macleay Valley Rally such a big success making \$7000 for our charity Little Wings .The rally wasn't just focused on money for the charity but everyone who entered to have a good time.

Leading up to this event was the unrest overseas with some supplies of fuel cut off and fuel prices almost doubling. With much promoting for the event by myself going to three club meetings at Port ,with flyers' at Taree and on any handy tree I could find. We had enough entrants to make an amazing display.

Two Members who came from Tamworth were surprised to receive an award of a \$100 Ampol fuel voucher and second longest travelled also received a \$50 Ampol fuel voucher. It was fitting to see Sylvia Lewis who was one of the Rally's original committee when it first started receive a \$100 fuel voucher as a lucky door prize. Prizes for just turning up, you think they will be back next year you betya they have said they will be back with more of their members if we have the event next year (of course they will know it is on when they get the Magazine).

Well that is all from the Rally for now. Rally 2027 1st & 2nd May at the Riverside markets.



Trip calendar.

Sunday 19th July Christmas in July.

Saturday 15th August invitation from Bowraville

Services club to show our cars in their car Park.
.Please come to give this little community a lift.

The club is supplying the prizes.

Kempsey Macleay Valley Rally 2027. 1st and 2nd May

Details to follow.

To give away.

1. An old 5 burner barbeque.
2. Is the frame of a large gazebo. The top has more holes than a sieve. Contact Nev or Colin. If you can do something with these.

For Sale.

A 1958 VW bug. Good condition only 38,000 miles.



Price 20,000 neg
phone Ellen

Mobile 0403730314.

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