

Coffs Splutter

April 2026

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

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**What's the link between this 1950's movie and Coffs Harbour? Read
about it inside...**

COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB

2025-2026

Life Members — Geoff Maunder, John Lansley, Des Drury, Bob Dixon, Harry Smith (dec.), Jack Brain (dec.), Arthur Martin (dec.), Keith Winkler (dec.)

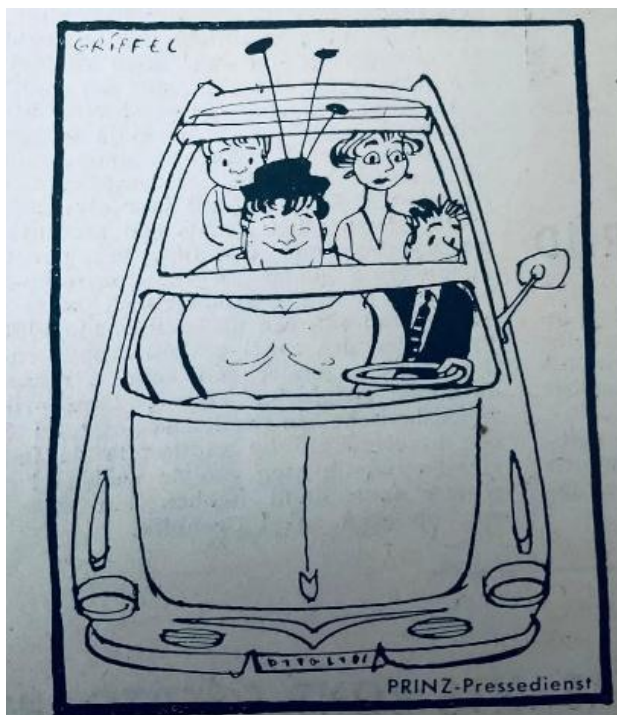
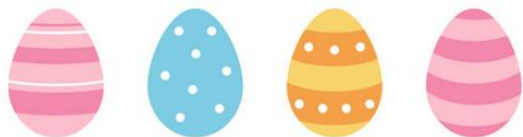
The President's Corner



Wow!

It wasn't that long ago I wished members a Happy Christmas. Easter is an enjoyable time for us to take the opportunity to spend time with family and friends. For millions of Christians Easter is a special time in

their lives, while for others interstate travel or Easter egg hunts are about to happen. Easter is always a busy time on the roads so please take extra care if you are taking your club car for a well-deserved spin around our beautiful part of Australia. On a personal note, I wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Easter.



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.

Summer Beach Hop, 13-15 March 2026

The Summer Beach Hop in 2026 was held over the course of three days, with many different events on those days. During this event I attended the Saturday show in town, and the Sunday Show at the Jetty foreshores.

Saturday Show Coffs Central

It was after dad and I saw a good friend of ours we went into town, where Dad had a pressing matter to attend to in town. Along the way we saw a car show drawing a sizeable crowd with loud rock music and young dancers. This was indeed a much bigger gathering than that of the previous year (Article back in April Splutter 2025), and the cars were of varying eras. It seemed interesting so I decided to stay and look.

There were many diamonds and gems in the hustle and bustle of the car show. The attending cars spotted were a 60s and 80s Rover 3500s and, a Valiant Regal, A Holden EK Station Wagon and Ute, several Ford Fairlanes and a Mustang, a Chevrolet Camaro, and a Subaru SVX. Fellow members Geoff and Leonie were perusing at the show as well. After spending much time eyeing the attractive cars, Dad and I then left to attend the Rotary Bookfest just up the road at the showground.



**Left: Holden EK Station wagon
Convertible**



Centre: Valiant Regal



**Right: Ford Fairlane
Convertible**



**Left: Maroon Chevrolet Camaro
3500**



Centre: Subaru SVX Sports coupe

Right: 80s Rover

Sunday Main Show Jetty Foreshores

I arose early and headed out to the starting point. I met up with the other members who were going on the Aanuka run, where Judy gave me some items and I engaged in conversation with the other members. Once they started leaving I left to attend the Beach Hop on such a blistering day. Thankfully there was some cloud cover later and a walk along the promenade is accompanied by a breeze.

Upon arriving there I saw Brett, who said John and Lorraine weren't far behind (I did not see them). Later I saw Glenn with his FJ Ute, Hal in the FJ Sedan, and Jim and Wendy celebrating Jim's birthday, so Happy Birthday Jim :-)

I stayed for about two and a half hours afterwards, taking many comprehensive photos of the cars there. Some standouts on this day include a Studebaker Silver Hawk (It is a coupe comprising of an automatic transmission and V8 engine, and for sale for \$35,000 and the number is 0438 904 129 if anyone is interested). Two Holden EJ Sedans with both luggage and cutlery along with a Kingswood and Monaro, VW Kombi vans, Vauxhall Wyvern, Buick Rivera, Many Ford Fairlanes and Mustangs, a Mercedes and several other machines with engines caught my eye along with many markets where the Monaro and Kingswood along with the FJ Ute were found.



**Left: Yellow VW Kombi
Champion**

Centre: Buick Riviera

Right: Hals FJ next to a Chevrolet



**Left: Studebaker Silver Hawk
Monaro**

Centre: Holden Kingswood

Right: Orange Holden

Report and Photos by Alfie A. Hambling

“Genevieve” in Coffs Harbour

As some members will know, there was a movie released in 1953 that really popularised the hobby of collecting and restoring old motor vehicles. The movie was titled “Genevieve”, and it starred John Gregson, Kay Kendall, Dinah Sheridan and, perhaps best remembered today, Kenneth Moore. The real star of the movie, of course, was Genevieve herself. A 1904 Darracq car - the movie revolves around the trials and tribulations of getting her to complete the world famous London to Brighton Veteran Car Run.

I was looking around the excellent ‘Coffs Collections’ image library one day (link below) and was surprised to see a photo of this famous car right here in Coffs Harbour! I’d love to know how Genevieve came to visit our fair town...

Genevieve was restored by a fellow named Norman Reeves who lent the car for the movie. After she became a movie star in her own right, Mr Reeves found the attention paid to him and his car a bit too much and he eventually sold *Genevieve* to George Gilltrap who had a car museum in Rotorua, New Zealand. On seeking to import the car into NZ, George was staggered at the high import duties the government was seeking and moved his collection to Australia. Some readers may remember the Gilltrap Museum at Kirra on the Gold Coast. Here *Genevieve* remained until 1989 when she was sold to Paul Terry, a wealthy entrepreneur and motoring and aviation enthusiast. Mr Terry placed Genevieve on display in his Motor Museum in Albany, Western Australia. Unfortunately, Paul Terry was killed in a helicopter accident shortly after seeing Genevieve return to England in 1992 to participate once again in the London to Brighton run. Following the run, she changed hands again, being sold into the Dutch Louwman Collection (The Hague, Netherlands) which forms one of the best motor museums in the world. *Genevieve* is still in the collection today and regularly does the Brighton run.

So, how did this famous car end up visiting Coffs Harbour? I can only speculate. The information available on the Coffs Collections website states that the photos were taken of a parade in 1961 with the cars going down High Street. *Genevieve* is accompanied by a number of other early cars, including a 1902 Rochet and a 1914 Talbot which I believe were owned by the Yabsley family from Kempsey. An early Garford Fire Engine is also shown in one picture.

In 1961, a parade was organised to celebrate the Centenary of Coffs Harbour and District. This parade certainly passed down High Street and other photos of the parade show activities associated with the Centenary celebrations. Taking place at the showground. One photo shows the cars in the parade forming up at what I am sure is the Showground. My guess is that George Gilltrap, having recently acquired *Genevieve*, decided to show her off at this important occasion. Perhaps during the process of bringing her up from Sydney to the Gold Coast following import?

References:

1. Coffs Collections website: <https://coffs.recollect.net.au/>
2. A fabulous website devoted to the Genevieve Movie compiled by Mr Don Brockway. A detailed history of the car is here:
<http://www.donbrockway.com/genevieve%27s%20history.htm>

If anyone has any information about the 1961 Centenary parade or even remembers it, I would love to hear from you. The following photos may prompt a thought or comment!

Andrew Winter.



Genevieve, with Mr and Mrs Gilltrap participating in the parade in Coff's Harbour, 1961. Note she is wearing a Qld number plate NH-715.



1914 Talbot being driven by Mrs Yabsley from Kempsey.



Another photo (in colour!) of the Talbot passing down High Street.



A charming photo of Genevie on High Street. Mrs Gilltrap resplendent with parasol!

- *Photo credited to Moreen (Henderson) Southwell – it seems she took a series of photos of the parade from a house in High Street. A valuable historical record.*



The very rare 1902 Rochet of Mr Ed Yabsley leading Genevieve and the Talbot



This photo seems to be of the parade 'form-up' at the back of the showground. Genevieve in the lead with the Yabsley Family's 1902 Rochet and 1914 Talbot followed by Garford Fire Engine.



This lovely photo helps confirm that this is the 1961 Centenary parade as it has been recorded that a storm hit Coffs just before the parade commenced and the puddles on the road are clear to see!

Does anyone recognise this intersection with High Sreet?

A little story about our outing to Moonee Foreshore late last year

Bo and I arrived at the venue, we had decided to go early and directly from our home in town. We got there and found a good parking spot in the shade. I wasn't really feeling all that well but made the effort to be sociable, and it was a glorious day for a trip to the beach with our two small dogs. We got our orientation at the car park and chose where to sit in a shady spot then we all carried our chairs and table and picnic basket to a lovely place below a nice fern tree I think it was. Others from the club had also settled down at this location at the council bench tables. For some reason I had to return to my van for something I must have missed taking with us in the first place, memory serves me poorly at times, but I returned to my van, now this is where it gets interesting,,, 🤪 The ute parked next to my van had a dog inside and the lady owner was in a frantic state of panic 🤪 and approached me with urgency asking if I had any tools in my van in order for her to smash her window in her ute in order to get her dog out. She had somehow managed to lock the car with her keys inside as well as the dog. The dog sat quietly and calmly looking at us, the lady was a total mess...I tell you, she was panicking badly! I tried to calm her down. I said I had a jack for my van, is that any good? Sure, she said. She grabbed the jack - heavy blood thing - and using all her might, I tell u, she lifted the jack up over her head and smashed the steel jack at the rear window on her ute. Guess what?? Nothing happened, not even the smallest scratch! I was stunned how tough these windows are. It was bloody noisy though when the jack hit the window,. She tried twice with the same result - nothing....

What do we do now.....?

I wasn't even going to try better her attempt to smash the window in my state -too hard. Anyway, the driver side window was just open about 20-25mm and we just couldn't press it down. Bloody unbelievable really. At this stage, another guy had joined me helping out. We all tried to press this window down - it didn't even move a millimetre I tell you! The lady was beside herself now, panic, panic, panic! I tried to tell her that her dog was ok,, still sitting calmly looking at us. I collected a hockey strap from my van, it's long and has a hook each end, now trying fishing for her keys on the seat below. It was not easy with her trying to fish the keys with a long stick, kind of at one stage 3 of us doing our best to hook the keys on the improvised device we each had. It was actually a sight to behold, my hockey strap kept catching her handbag. The dog still looking calmly at us 3! The guy next to me had a better stick and finally managed to push the keys over to my drop zone where my hockey strap would land - so combined effort and determination we finally had the keys on my hook and bingo up to the opening in the window. The lady got excited and tried to grasp the keys. Guess what? She dropped them.... The bloke next to me and I, we just stood there... what happened there.... what do they say? Tho many chefs spoil the broth....

At this stage I think the lady nearly had a heart attack and breakdown. She walked away after she realised what had happened...

But we didn't give up! Back to fishing, trying hard to avoid the keys dropping down the side of the seat - that would end our mission I think. After a few attempts we had the keys back on the hook,, and got them out and opened the door. Happy days!! Dog was just wagging its tail as they do and probably thought "what was all that about?"

We all said our goodbyes and I could finally join my club under the fern tree and enjoy the water with my dog.

Was a great day, great friends, great atmosphere and living the dream.

Thank you for embracing Bo and I in your club we truly enjoy being part of it.



Story by Hans Hensrichsen.

(the Editor apologies to Hans for not including this in "Splutter" when he submitted it earlier this year)

Outing to Charlesworth Bay and the Aanuka Resort for Lunch, Sunday March 15th

It was a truly beautiful sunny day with a hint of Autumn. Starting out at the airport, we were met by Alfie who only wanted to say hello to all before heading off to the Beach Hop display at the Jetty. Also joining us there was Mick Kyle a prospective member. We went off to Charlesworth Bay but the leader should now receive the Hal prize for losing his way near the end.

What a pleasant spot by the sea with a big tree for shade, a picnic table and a toilet block handy. Conversation was broad ranging, but members are concerned about the price and availability of fuel. Will Glenn be able to get to his vintage/veteran rallies over Easter?

We then went on to the Aanuka resort where there was plenty of parking. This is a little bit of the "tropics" in Coffs. Coming here was an experiment. The reports I received from several as we were leaving were very positive. The food was good and with sharing a pizza and salad with Mary it was \$22 a head which I think is reasonable for a lunch. The drinks were expensive, but the water was still free!

All in all, a successful event and certainly a possible return destination.

Attendance: Judy R (at morning tea), Graham and Marie - Subaru Sherpa, Hans and Bo International truck, Graeme and Lyn – modern, Geoff and Leonie- Wolseley, Leigh and Carol Mazda Miata, Brad and Sharon - Riley Pathfinder, Glenn and Jenny – Whippet, Zeno and Fay - Ford Escort, Graeme and Elizabeth - MGB, Gerry and Mary- Toyota Crown





Report by Gerry DeGabriele and Photos Marie Davie.

Coffee Run to The Secret Garden, Coffs Harbour, Thursday 19th March 2026

Fantastic run to the Secret Garden on the 19th. Very good turnout considering Fuel issues in Australia. Five cars met at the Airport – See Photos. We proceeded to The Secret Garden at 9-30 where we met the others who had gone straight there.

Unfortunately, Jeff's Cab blew a radiator hose, so he and Leonie didn't make it.

Plenty of lively conversation as always.

Report and photos by Leigh Stephens

Attendees and vehicles

Leigh and Carol – Mazda Miata, Jim and Wendy - Mercedes, John and Lorraine – Holden Torana, Geoff and Leonie – London Cab, Graeme - MGB GT, Graham and Lyn – Modern, Hal – FJ Holden, Judy Riddel – Modern, Russell – Honda S8, Alfie – Modern, Kevin and Moira – Mercedes, Hans and Bodile – International Truck, Gerry – Toyota Crown



Carol and Miata



Well known FJ!



MGB GT



Left: Russell's Honda



Right: The mighty Torana





Minutes -Meeting of the Coffs Harbour Veteran, Vintage and Classic Car Club
Thursday 2nd April 2026

Meeting opened: 7.00 pm.

Attendance: As per Attendance Book= 19

Apologies: Moira and Kevin Franklin, John and Lorraine Lansley, Brett and Sharon Moppett

Visitor/s: Nil

Minutes of last meeting the minutes as printed in the magazine were accepted as representing a true and accurate record of the March 2026 meeting.

Moved: Graeme Kane

Seconded: Steve Heelis

Carried

Guest Speaker: Scott Para Medic- Gave us an up to date, practical and helpful set of treatment/s when we are out on club runs for: anaphylactic reactions, severe cuts/haemorrhages, heart issues, unconscious members and snake bites.

Business arising from March 2026 Minutes - Graeme Wright Logbook Clarification- When the Logbook system was introduced you could renew registration for 3,6,9 or 12 months. If the period was less than 12 months, then the number of days you used the logbook also decreased. e.g. up to 3months=15 days logbook, up to 6 months=30 days logbook, up to 9 months=45 days logbook, over 9 months= 60 days logbook. The table however is NOT relevant when you have a full year of registration and have opted into the logbook scheme.

Correspondence In: then the number of days of logbook use

- 11 Magazines
- Invites- Kempsey Rally 2nd and 3rd May (Aerobatics , Markets, Show and Shine, Run to Bellbird, book on website), Koi Festival Coffs Harbour want 5 cars for display at their Koi Festival 21st June from 11am to 3pm contact Gavin ph. 0403930936
- Membership enquiries -2
- Acknowledgement from CHMC re logbook.
- Invoice Hall Hire

Correspondence Out:

- Reminder/s to members-Annuka Lunch
- Response to general enquiries
- Response membership enquiries
- Belligen RSL
- CHMC -letting CHMC know we voted against their logbook guidelines.
- Get Well Card Des Drury

Correspondence Accepted: Moved: Glen Campbell

Seconded:

Graeme Kane

Carried

Treasurers Report: -

Treasurers report was read to meeting by Acting Treasurer- Marg Murray

1. ***Motion:*** It was moved that the treasurer's report be accepted, and all accounts/expenses be paid.

Moved: Graeme Kane

Seconded: Barrie Milne

Carried

Past Events

March

- Thursday 5th Meeting
- Saturday 7th -Urunga Foreshores
- Friday 13th-Sunday 15th- Beach Hop Coffs Harbour-see article in Slutter
- Sunday 15th M/T Charlesworth Bay and lunch Aanuka -all agreed this was worthwhile
- Thursday 19th- Coffee run Secret Garden

UPCOMING EVENTS

April-~~Due to petrol shortages it was decided to change some of the venues~~

- Thursday 2nd April-Club Meeting
- Saturday 4th-NO run due to Easter
- Thursday 16th-Coffee Run Botanic Gardens-Hal (NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE)-Hal
- Sunday 19th-Morning Tea (to be decided) and Beach House (NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE)--Jim

May

- Saturday 2nd- Coffs Show -Gerry
- Thursday 7th-Club Meeting
- Sun 10th-Belligen Show
- Sunday 17th -Morning Tea Mulloway, Lunch Seaview Tavern-Glen
- Coffee Run- Wharf Cafe Nambucca-Graeme

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. **Life Membership Vacancy: Nomination Closed**-Only one nomination received-for Graeme Kane.
2. **Mail out of Splutter:** We only have two members requiring mailout of the Splutter. The present charge of \$15 does not cover the cost (stamps are now \$1.70 each) nor the time taken up etc of mailing out 2 magazines. After a general discussion the following motion was voted on and carried.

Motion : The club will no longer mail out the Splutter magazine. The two outstanding members who have paid will be reimbursed.

Moved: Hal Murray

Seconded: Graeme Kane

Carried

3. **Club Merchandise:** Graeme Kane has ordered some new mugs (with Club Logo etc printed on mugs) These will be available for purchasing and will be given to guest speakers etc as a thank you for their time.
4. Alfie has some old car magazines to donate if anyone is interested.
5. **Nomination forms** will be available for Committee Positions for 2026/2027 Committee, at the May meeting. Most Executive positions will be vacated, so please think seriously about filling either President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer.
6. Supper Reminders:

May=Alfie Hambling	September=Brett Moppett
June=Lorraine Lansley	October=Alfie Hambling
July= Graeme Kane	November= Marg Murray
August=Des Drury (alias Maureen)	December=Bo Henrichsen

Vehicle Movements: Glen Campbell will be taking his "Brush" from 19th to 26th April to Temora for a Rally.

Fines: Graham Davey, Geoff, Hans, Alfie, William

Raffle Winners: 1. Kaye Guinness 2.Kaye Guinness 3.Barrie Milne 4.Graeme Kane

Next Meeting: Thursday 7th May

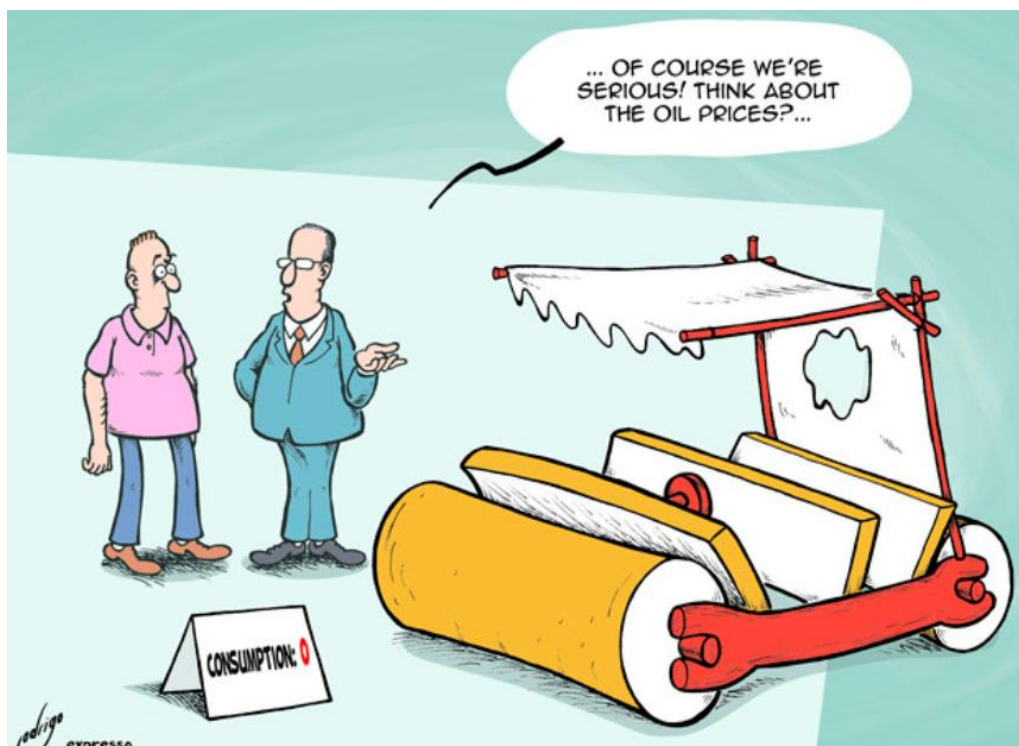
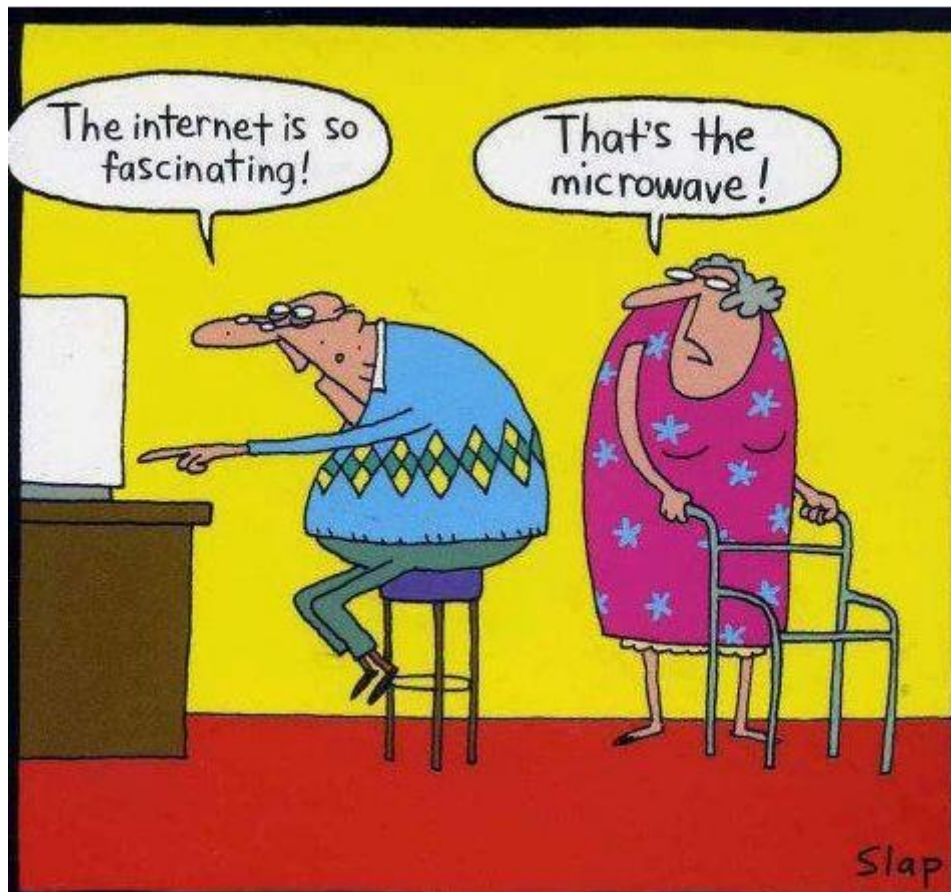
Guest Speaker May: Andrew Winter

Supper for May: Alfie Hambling

Meeting Closed at: 8.30pm

Secretary: Marg Murray

Chairperson: Graham Davey



FOR SALE

Overlander, Sports Car World, Classic Cars, Modern Motor, Racing Cars and Wheels among other magazines. These magazines range from the late 50s to some from the early 2000s. Contact Alfie via email if interested for more info including prices. Alfie's email is Binary.08@outlook.com

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):

Note some changes since last month due to fuel shortage / pricing issue

APR 26		
Thursday 2 nd	Club Meeting	Graham Davey
Saturday 4 th	No run – Easter weekend	
Thursday 16 th	Coffee Run – Botanic Gardens	Hal Murray
Sunday May 10 th	Bellingen show is on the 9/10 May and they want us on the Sunday 10th May	Geoff Maunder
Sunday 19 th	Morning tea Jetty Foreshore Reserve then Jetty Beach House for Lunch	Jim Fisher
Sunday 19 th	<i>Holden Ute Show & Shine , Bunker Gallery / Holden Museum</i>	<i>Not official club event – use log book</i>
MAY 26		
Saturday 2 nd	Coffs Show (place holder). Details Invite TBA	
Thursday 7 th	Club Meeting	Graham Davey
Sat 9 th & Sun 10 th	Bellingen show is on the 9/10 May and Show socitey wants us on the Sunday 10th May	Gerry De Gabriele
Sunday 17 th	Morning tea at Muloway, Lunch at SeaView Tavern, Woolgoolga	Glenn Campbell
Thursday 21 st	Coffee Run to Wharf Café, Nambucca	Graeme Wright
JUNE 26		
Thursday 4 th	Club Meeting	Graham Davey
Thursday 18 th	Coffe Run to Bellingen Butter Factory	Jim Fisher
Sunday 21 st	Wings & Wheels, Grafton	Gerry De Gabriele
Sunday 28 th	Changover Dinner (Lunch) at Sawtell RSL	Graham Davey

The NSW Ambulance has a webpage with a map showing publically available Automated External Defibrillator (AED) units:<https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/goodsam/locate-an-aed>