

Christmas Event Report

By: Pam Stork

08 December, 2024

**Christmas Lunch,
Wallace Hotel, Wallace**



Participants: Alan & Pam Stork (Leaders) - 1990 Ford Capri, Daryl & Sandra D (Back Markers) - 2004 Mazda MX5, Alan & Dawn E - 2000 Mercedes Benz E430, Mark & Judy R - 1968 Rover P5B, Ray & Marjorie D - 2001 Holden Statesman, Rob T & Helen T - Isuzu DMax, Shane P - 1964 Holden EH Station Wagon, Vicky S - Daily, David & Trudy C - Toyota Prius, Alan C & Marguerite McL - 1998 Porche 911 Carrera 996, David & Belinda E - 1983 Ford Fairmont Ghia XE, John E & Helen McM-S - Skoda, Darren & Joanne H - Daily, Alex & Lou M - 1969 MG B, Reggie P, Casey J-P, Merrin, Genie, Aurora & Gwenovere - 1949 Ford Spinner, Mark & Maureen R - Daily, Mark & Sharon W - 1997 Mercedes Benz SLK 2100, Ross R - 1974 Triumph Bonneville (Motorcycle), Dave W - 2008 Suzuki SV650 (Motorcycle)









Despite all the many and varied emails and Facebook posts that I put out in the days leading up to the Christmas event, everyone somehow managed to make sense of what I was trying to convey.

Those who were meeting at DTC arrived in plenty of time for a coffee and a chat before departing at 10:00 am “sharp”.

There was a cool breeze blowing, but we could see from the clouds that were rapidly breaking up that we were in for some sunshine.

With Alan and I in the lead, and Daryl and Sandra bringing up the rear, our long group of vehicles pulled out of DTC and headed along the B160, Glenelg Highway for a short 3.5 k’s, before turning off at the Bells Road intersection.

Our route took us via Buninyong, out through Yendon and Gordon, finally arriving at the Wallace Hotel just after 11:00.

The run was smooth, and we didn’t manage to lose anyone along the way ... which is always very good.



I thought it was a good idea to put tinsel and baubles on the front dash of our Capri, until we headed into the sun!!!
 Wow! That reflection on the windscreen was really distracting. Poor Alan, he did a great job of remaining calm while I leapt about, catching baubles that kept rolling off the dash at every turn. I finally tossed them onto the back seat when we were almost at the hotel.





The group gathering at the carpark at the Wallace Hotel upon arrival.
We met up with David and Belinda along the way.





Shane, who met us at the hotel, was pleased to show off his very much loved 1964 EH Holden Station Wagon. Well done, Shane. It's a beautiful car, and a credit to you.

(I had to admit that the two EHs I owned; a station wagon and a panel van gave me nothing but trouble, but that's how it was back in the 70s when we were struggling on low wages, they were just cheap old cars, never our "Pride and Joy".)







Our Vice President, Daryl got up to say a few words, and to introduce himself to our members and guests.

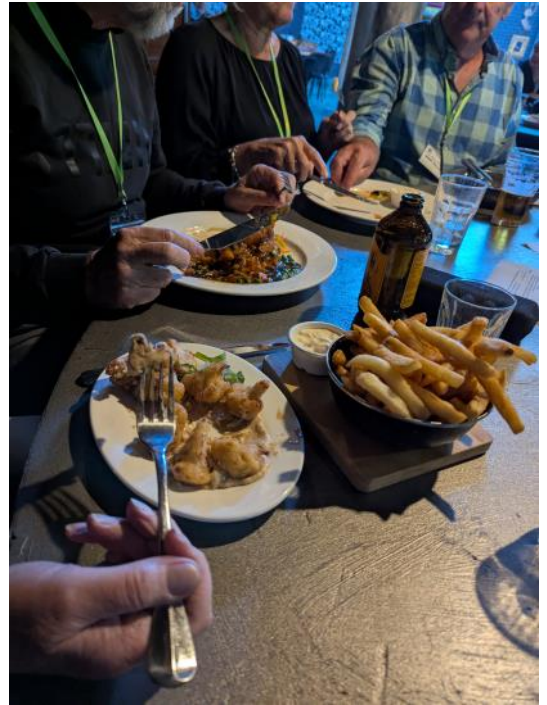
Well done, Daryl. You did a great job under difficult circumstances; it was very noisy in the dining room, but everyone still managed to hear you.





Sandra D “volunteered” to be our lovely Mrs Claus on the day, handing out gifts to the three youngsters.





We believe everyone enjoyed their meals, they were certainly large enough, and the variety on the menu was impressive.



In the lead-up to the event on Sunday, I was in regular communication with Andrea, the owner of the Wallace Hotel, advising numbers. It became a bit of a fiasco; at first we had too many people coming, and we were asked to limit the number. Then, we were told we could have the front room, and numbers would be unlimited. That was a huge relief. Then... we were told that we couldn't have the front room, after all. (This was something outside of Andrea's control. She encountered some people who insisted on having the front room, even though she had promised it to us. I guess the squeaky wheel always get the oil.) Not to worry, we were then told we could be accommodated in the main dining room, and our numbers were fine. Phew! I breathed a huge sigh of relief after that conversation. Because Andrea had told me that the hotel was fully booked, we arranged with her that our group would arrive early, so that we could order our meals as soon as we got there, to avoid long delays.

So, after sending out more emails, and posting more updates on Facebook, I thought it was all under control...but, when we arrived at the hotel just after 11:00 am, (which was a bit earlier than expected) it was to find the doors locked!!! I sent Andrea a message, and she immediately opened up for us. I can tell you, I was feeling a bit panicked. Fortunately, it all turned out well in the end, and during the few minutes we were gathered outside, we managed to have a good look at Shane's lovely EH Holden.

Once inside, we took our seats, perused the menu, and placed our orders. It was a bit early for lunch, but it was preferable to waiting over an hour, possibly.

The meals began to come out quite quickly, and we all set about enjoying our lunch. It was unfortunate that the barista machine wasn't working, as many of us would have liked a hot drink.

It was a great day, spent with lovely people. We had 38 participants, which was absolutely fantastic. The weather was perfect, and the company, the very best. The Wallace is an excellent venue, and the hosts most accommodating. We have been there several times, and I am sure we will put it on our calendar again.

Long after eating, the hotel still didn't look totally full. We weren't sure what happened, but the early start allowed us more time to linger and enjoy chatting, which some of us stragglers did until around 3:00!



Thank you to everyone who joined us and contributed to the enjoyment in 2024.

Special Thank You to Vice President, Daryl for providing photos from our events,
and for going Back Marker for us many times.

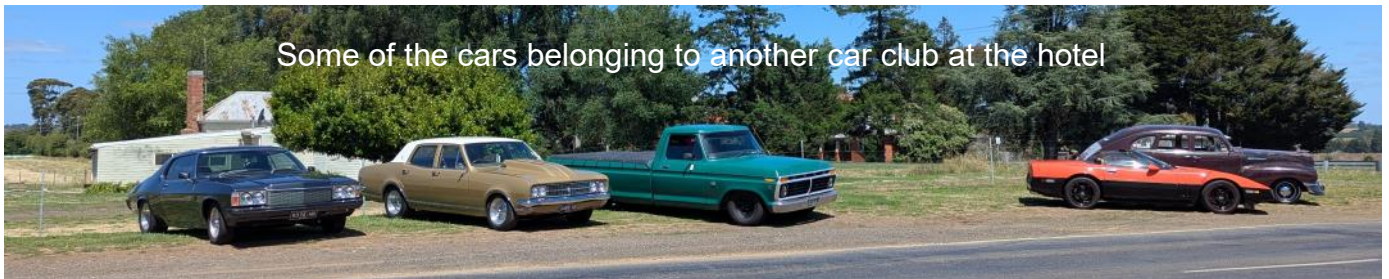
Sandra does a wonderful job of keeping us updated via the two-way radios.

We look forward to our next Combined Run:

Our New Years Event
Sunday 14 January, 2025

Details to be posted ASAP

Keep the date free



We wish
everyone
a
Very
Merry Christmas

And a wonderful,
Happy, Healthy
and Safe
New Year





Motorcycle Only Rides **Last Sunday of Every Month**



Departure Point:



Shell Sebastopol Service Station
112-118 Hertford Street, Sebastopol
Arrive 10:00 am for a coffee and a chat

Ride will depart when everyone is ready to leave
Destinations and Details will be posted prior to the event, if known,
If not, we will decide on the day

All rides are Weather Permitting - Guests/Friends Always Welcome

Contact Alan Stork
Mobile: 0401 995 061

Email: classicridesdrivesclub@gmail.com

Web: www.classicridesdrivesclub.org

"Calendar" page RSVP Form

Our Next Motorcycle Only Ride

Sunday 29 December, 2024

Details to be provided ASAP

PLEASE NOTE NEW DEPARTURE POINT

AS FROM SEPTEMBER, 2024

Classic Rides & Drives Club Inc



2025 Calendar

Don't miss out on the fun, stick this calendar on your fridge today

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Contacts: President, Alan Stork-Mobile: 0401 995 061 Email: classicridesclub@gmail.com Web: www.classicridesclub.org

 = Combined Runs
 = Motorcycle Runs
 = Public Holidays
 = Mothers Day
 = Fathers Day

Combined Runs for March, May, & June have been shifted to the First Sunday of the Month due to Public Holidays/Mothers Day

Please Note: There is a printer's error on the dates in January. Tuesdays are printed in Red, and Sundays are not. This was a fault with the template used.

To ensure that all members and visitors feel safe and are able to enjoy their time with us, we ask that anyone participating in any event conducted by Classic Rides & Drives Club Inc. follow this Code of Conduct:

- Obey all laws at all times, including COVID, road laws and Club Permit Scheme rules
- Any vehicle participating in a club event should be safe for road use
- Participants should ride/drive within the limits of their capabilities, weather conditions, etc.
- Be respectful to all participants and the public
- Never put anyone or anything at risk by behaving in an unsafe or reckless manner
- Never behave in a manner that would be deemed to bring disrepute to the club

Guidelines for Participating in a CRD Club Run

If the participating numbers are large (more than 10 vehicles), the run will be conducted with a Leader and a Back Marker. These two participants will have mobile phones and each other's phone number to enable contact in case of any problems or emergencies.

Slower moving vehicles can cause the dynamics of a run to fail. If for any reason you do not wish to, or your vehicle is not capable of travelling at a maximum speed of 100 kph, tell the Leader before departing. We are happy to accommodate by splitting the run into various groups, each with a Leader and Back Marker. The slower group will always leave last, and the first group (usually bikes only, followed by cars) will always wait for them when re-grouping.

If you would rather travel at your own pace, or take your own route, and then meet up with the group at the final destination, or some other point along the way, that's fine. Just make sure the Leader and Back Marker know before the group leaves the departure point

Remember: You are participating in a fun group event, NOT a race

It is a delicate operation to keep a moving group together, especially when traffic is heavy. Everything that can be done, will be done to ensure no one is "lost" on a run, but it is up to each participant to follow these basic guidelines and respect their fellow travellers:

- **NO PARTICIPANT SHOULD EVER OVERTAKE THE RUN LEADER**
- **MOTORCYCLISTS CAN MARK CORNERS ONLY IF THERE ARE NO CARS PARTICIPATING**
- Always arrive at the departure point on time with a **full tank of fuel**. If your vehicle has a limited fuel range, let the Leader know so that they can accommodate your needs
- When travelling in a group, **ALWAYS** keep the participating rider/driver behind you in your **rear-view mirror**. This may mean slowing down, and even stopping if necessary
- If you see that the vehicle immediately behind you **fails to proceed/disappears from sight**, pull over to a safe spot and wait. The rest of the group and Back Marker will eventually catch up and stop as well. This should cause a chain reaction (known as the "Rubber Band" effect) that should bring the Leader to a halt. The Leader will be updated by phone by the Back Marker. The group should proceed again once the situation is under control
- In the event of a **break-down**, or emergency, pull over to a safe place and wait for the Back Marker to arrive. Explain your situation, and that person will do what is required to provide assistance and to notify the Leader - **Please do not pull over unnecessarily. Only the Back Marker is required to stop to assist**
- If you have to **pull out of the run** for any reason and cannot wait until you reach the next re-grouping point, wave the vehicle behind on, and leave a message with the Back Marker to advise you are not proceeding but are not in need of assistance. **Do not overtake the run leader to depart group as this is dangerous and causes confusion**
- If you take a **wrong turn, or miss a corner**, try to re-join the group in a safe manner, or leave a phone message with the Leader or Back Marker. You will have a run sheet, if possible, do your best to reach the destination or the next stopping point. If not possible, please let either the Leader or Back Marker know your situation and if you require assistance
- If you see the **vehicle behind you take a wrong turn, keep going**. If they apply the above guideline, they should be okay. Continue to keep the next participating vehicle in your rear-view mirror
- **Never overtake on the left**, and please show **courtesy when passing** other vehicles

Most Importantly: ENJOY YOURSELF and STAY SAFE

DISCLAIMER:

The Classic Rides & Drives Club Inc will not be liable for any damage, injury or loss caused directly or indirectly by anyone participating in a CRD event/activity, whether to the participant, or to any other party. Participants will fully indemnify and hold the club harmless in connection with all claims arising from such damage, injury or loss.

Child Protection Policy: Any child participating in a CRD event will be under supervision of their parent/guardian at all times.