

THE CARRIER PIGEON

BULLETIN OF BALLINA CLASSIC VEHICLE CLUB INC.

ISSUE NO. 409

SEPTEMBER 2023

IF ONLY

I had saved my money.

Check out some of the most expensive classic cars and bikes.....



\$6,500,000
to
\$7,000,000

1954 FERRARI 375 AMERICA VIGNALE CABRIOLET

Ferrari was a much different automaker in the 1950s than it is today. The Italian marque focused much more on grand tourers back then, and the Ferrari 375 America is an excellent example. The 375 America featured a detuned version of the Lampredi engine from the 375 MM race car and arrived as a replacement for the 342 America.

It was built in meager numbers, as Ferrari only built 10 375 Americas, though two more vehicles that started as 250 Europas were converted at the factory later on. Buyers had their choice of a few coachwork upgrades from Pinin Farina and Vignale, but what makes this car so special is that it was the only vehicle to have coachwork done by Vignale and be a cabriolet.

This car's history is also remarkable. Enzo Ferrari personally sold one of these vehicles to Bianca Colizzi, film director Giuseppe Colizzi's daughter. In addition, this vehicle has matching numbers for its engine, gearbox, rear axle, and bodywork.



\$8,000,000
to
\$9,245,000

1924 HISPANO-SUIZA H6C "TULIPWOOD"

We won't judge you if you've never heard of Hispano-Suiza. The brand was founded in 1904 in Barcelona and was a force in the racing world. André Dubonnet commissioned this Hispano-Suiza H6C Torpedo. After a career as a pilot in World War I and racing cars, Dubonnet set out to make what became the most famous Hispano-Suiza ever.

While the 8.0-liter is a highlight, the coachwork is spectacular. Dubonnet got aircraft manufacturer Nieuport-Astra to make the body of the 1924 Hispano-Suiza H6C "Tulipwood" Torpedo, while engineer Henri Chasseriaux formed the 1/8-inch-thick strips of mahogany that were laid over 3/4-inch ribs to create the body.

Today, a wood car would be purely for show, but in 1924, it was used to compete in the Targa Florio, where it finished in sixth place overall. Not only did the wood bodywork result in a vehicle that looked like nothing else, but it was also far lighter than traditional bodywork that would be fitted to a vehicle of this type.

... more page 6



President's run deferred till next year



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CLUB MEETINGS:

1st Tuesday of the month,
7pm sharp,
Ballina RSL Club.

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ARTICLES,
PHOTOS AND CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR THE CARRIER PIGEON TO THE
EDITOR.

ALL OTHER CLUB
CORRESPONDENCE TO THE
SECRETARY.



FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks to those, from our Classic Vehicle Club who have contributed to this addition of The Carrier Pigeon.

A special thank you to our New Zealand Car Club friends who have again provided, the "Club run recipe" for this month's bulletin.

I trust that the last three Carrier Pigeons have provided Ballina club members with some smiles (or other emotions), and there has been many correct answers to the various challenges.

Trust the next month is kind to you all.

Happy and Safe Motoring

Mark Prowse, Editor

**We need
your input**



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PRESIDENT'S NATTER

The club run to Brunswick Heads was a nice day out with good attendance. If you have any ideas about other club runs, pass them on to Therese and Cedric. There is a suggested run to the Lismore Powerhouse which is an interesting place for those keen on really big engines and is a vital part of Lismore's history. There is a local group working to conserve the power station and return some of the engines to working condition. Really big boys toys!!

Edition 408 of the magazine was a great read again but they are only as good as the quality AND quantity of the articles submitted to the editor. I would like to think and request that each member contribute at least one article with a few photos each year to keep the quality of the Carrier Pigeon high and interesting for the membership! The topics can be your first car, favourite classic, a great trip you have done or the biggest disaster you had in a car, whatever to keep the magazine alive and interesting.

was planning a President's Run but trying to book accommodation in Spring was not easy and will obviously require a longer lead time so will start to plan early in the new year for a spring trip next year. I was also planning to be away on a trip to Motorclassica for a few weeks so did not have much time to plan this year. Unfortunately it appears the Motorclassica is no longer on but I have planned a long road trip so will go ahead with that anyway. I have planned on visits to the Lindsay Fox Car Collection in Melbourne and the Gippsland Car Museum in Victoria so will still have some nice cars to look at and will get some photos for the Carrier Pigeon on my return.

See you at a meeting!

Lindsay



AUTO PARTS STORE

6/46 De Havilland Crescent, Ballina

DO YOU NEED PARTS?

Purchase your parts at
B-Line Auto through the
club cash account to
receive trade pricing
just show your membership card

LADIES PAGE

If you were a classic car or bike, what type (make and model) would you be, and why?

A V12 E type Jaguar as I'd have plenty of get up and go!

If you could take a road trip to any destination in the world, where would it be and why there specifically?

I'd take a relaxed road trip around New Zealand as it's like the world in a small package with many natural wonders and interesting cultures

What's the best or worst road trip you've ever taken in a car or bike.

The worst trip was returning from a car club outing when I travelled in the boot of a Jaguar M11 tapping the petrol pump to keep the fuel supply going. The best part was reaching home before my fist gave up

If you had a race car, what brands / products would you have painted across the exterior as sponsors?

The best offers would make the final decisions but I'd probably approach Castrol for oil, Pirelli for tyres and whoever has the best high performance fuel at the time



Lyn Sales

If you were a classic car or bike, what type (make and model) would you be, and why?

1977 Ford Cobra coupe - POWER if you don't believe me just ask Pete.



Sue Eveston

If you could take a road trip to any destination in the world, where would it be and why there specifically?

A road trip around Australia as I would like to see it all.

What's the best or worst road trip you've ever taken in a car or bike.

The worst trip ever. Early 70's in a 59 Volkswagon with 2 adults and 5 kids age 11,9, 6, 5 and 1 plus boot full and the roof rack full of luggage from Casino to Canberra and back home on the old Pacific Highway. Very uncomfortable but we all survived the ride including the Volkswagon.

If you had a race car, what brands / products would you have painted across the exterior as sponsors?

Painted up like a Violet Crumble wrapper.

If you were a classic car or bike, what type (make and model) would you be, and why?

Aston Martin - fast, classy and I'm a James Bond tragic

If you could take a road trip to any destination in the world, where would it be and why there specifically?

I would love to drive from the Egypt to Sth Africa - so top to bottom of the African continent for the changing landscapes, amazing animals, the different cultures and the pure adventure of doing it.

What's the best or worst road trip you've ever taken in a car or bike.

Worst road trip was coming back from Brisbane late one night, on my own, in the early nineties - so old Pacific Hwy - it was absolutely bucketing down rain and taking the "short cut" through Wooyung my car broke down, did manage to get the NRMA and got home but not an experience I'd want to repeat.

If you had a race car, what brands / products would you have painted across the exterior as sponsors?

RSPCA with large paw prints painted on, Speedo swim wear, Lindt chocolate and Nat's coffee.



Therese Crollick

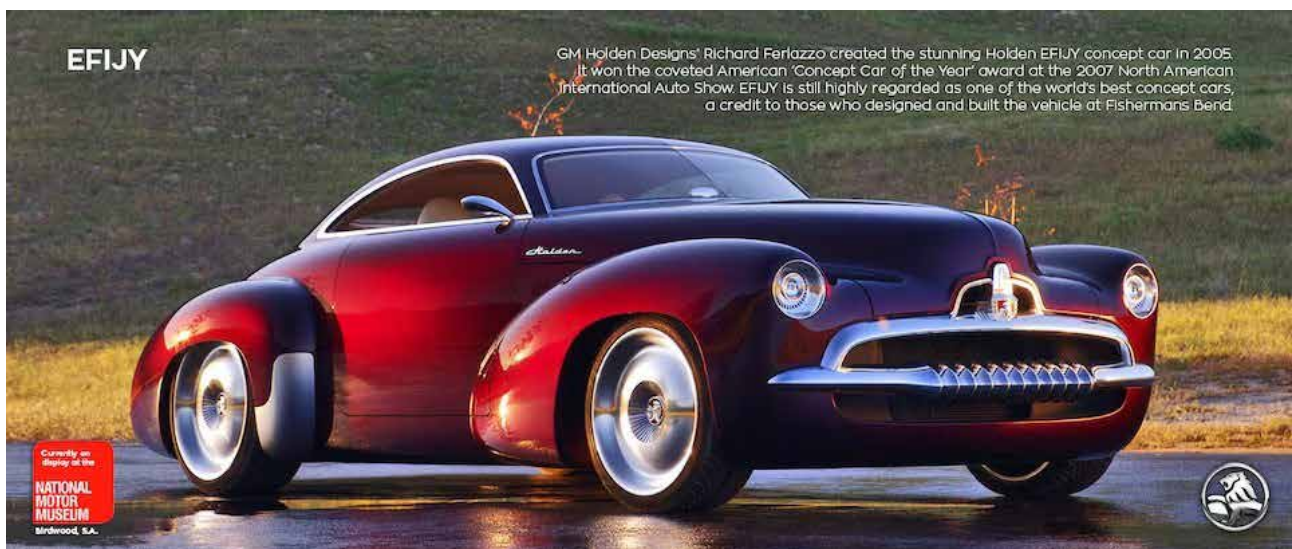
PLAYING WITH OLD CARS

Owner Gary Faulks
Model Oldsmobile F36
Year 1936

I sighted this car on the roadside in Ballina Industrial Estate in 1978 with a price tag of \$375. (The average weekly earnings for a male in September 1978 was \$218.) The vehicle was in going condition, three forward gears, and a flat six cylinder petrol engine.

Of course the price paid is only the start of the cost. Over the years since, much work and cost has been involved with the restoration work. The original colour was detected under the paint work and the car is now blue (or is that green?). Red leather has been used on the interior.

This car is on historic plates and can be seen occasionally around the local area.



CONTINUED FROM COVER



1937 MERCEDES-BENZ 540 K SPECIAL ROADSTER

Rarity is always one major point with collectors. Cars that are produced in small numbers will always be rare. Case in point: Only three known Mercedes-Benz 540 K Special Roadsters exist. That could be why it sold for nearly \$10 million. Plus, one of these models was actually owned and originally ordered by the King of Afghanistan in 1937, so it's truly a vehicle fit for luxury. King Mohammed Zahir Shah, the vehicle's original owner, is credited with constructing modern roads in the country. One can only imagine what the 540 K Special Roadster would've looked like on freshly laid tarmac back then.



1937 BUGATTI TYPE 57SC ATALANTE

Bugatti may be known for its outlandishly priced hypercars with engines that deliver enough performance to power a small city, but the automaker followed a similar formula back in the 1930s. The sultry Type 576SC Atalante pictured is believed to be one of the first 57SCs in existence, as the original owner decided to have Bugatti install a roots-style supercharge shortly after taking delivery of the vehicle. With the supercharger, the vehicle's power was bumped up to 200 horsepower, making this one of the fastest and most powerful cars in existence before World War II. Compared to other 57SC Atalantes, this model has a few unique touches that make it all the more desirable. For example, the gorgeous, fully skirted rear fenders that completely hide the rear tires and large Scintilla headlights showcase Bugatti's stunning coachwork. This vehicle is one of just 17 models in existence and is an all-original model with a history that can be traced back to its original delivery in Paris in 1937.



1937 TALBOT-LAGO T-150-C SS TEARDROP COUPE

The Talbot-Lago T-150-C SS Teardrop Coupe is a classic. It's also one you've never heard about because this example is thought to be the only one in existence that has all of its bodywork intact. The classic features bodywork designed by Figoni et Falaschi. The design firm is believed to have made only 10 to 20 Teardrop Coupes, which were available in the notchback Coupe Jeancart and the fastback Modelé New York. This T-150C-SS is a fastback Modelé New York, one of just two that the company ever built. Talk about rare. This car has won multiple awards, including First in Class at Pebble Beach and Best of Show at Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance.



1955 FERRARI 410 SPORT SPIDER

If there's one car on this list that will make you go weak in the knees, it's the Ferrari 410 Sport Spider. We could fill an entire page with all of the details that make this car so special. One of the major reasons is its stunning design, which Sergio Scaglietti created. This is one of the few Ferrari models to feature coachwork that Scaglietti designed and built. The 410 Sport Spider's 4.9-liter V2 engine is also drool-worthy. This car is one of just two factory-campaigned 410 Sport models to come with the 12-cylinder engine. This exact 410 Sport Spider was driven by Carroll Shelby and Juan Manuel Fangio. Shelby's career with the Ferrari was especially noteworthy, as he won eight races and had ten podium finishes behind the wheel of chassis number 0589 CM.

1955 MERCEDES-BENZ SLR 'UHLENHAUT COUPÉ'

The 1955 Mercedes-Benz SLR "Uhlenhaut Coupé" sold for an incredible amount of money. In fact, if you add up the other nine vehicles on this list, you'll still come up short on what someone spent on this car — but what a car to spend that kind of money on.

For Mercedes-Benz fans, the SLR "Uhlenhaut Coupé" is one of the most historic models ever built. It's one of just two vehicles that were built based on the race-ready 300 SLR, and it was created by legendary

\$146,588,400



designer Rudolf Uhlenhaut. Beyond its masterclass design, the "Uhlenhaut Coupé" was one of the fastest cars in the world at its time, able to hit a top speed of 180 mph.

The history behind this car is truly mesmerizing, but it is worth its obscene price tag because Mercedes-Benz had held onto the "Uhlenhaut Coupé" since it was new. So when it came up for sale, it was the first time in the car's history that it sold to a real owner.

OLD FOR NEW BIKES

MATCHLESS

Matchless is a name which has long been missing from the roll call of active motorcycle manufacturers

Having been the leading British manufacturer, and the catalyst for the once enormous superpower that was AMC (Associated Motorcycle Company: Matchless, AJS, Sunbeam, Indian and Norton), Matchless effectively ceased to exist in 1966 (they thought it was all over, and it was). But the rights to the brand were purchased by the Malenotti family – of recent Belstaff fame – in 2012

Designed to embody the much of the spirit and tradition of Matchless, Malenotti even consulted the descendants of the original founder to garner their approval for the new bike, which uses a 1916cc S&S motor at its heart.

While the styling is evocative of a bygone age, the design detail and technical solutions are anything but. The closer you look, the more the design strengths reveal themselves. The most obvious of the unique features are the dual controls, allowing the rider to have their feet firmly beneath them for spirited riding, or stretched out feet-first, without needing to make any adjustments. The seat unit can be moved up or down (from 740 to 800mm) to match peg choice to leg position, while the bars are also adjustable for height and angle. Nice touches include the tank-mounted dials, mini shock absorber for the ‘floating’ seat, underbelly rear shocks, and a 12-piston single front brake caliper.



NORTON MOTORCYCLES

The original company was formed by James Lansdowne Norton (known as “Pa”) at 320, Bradford Street, Birmingham, in 1898.[2] In 1902 Norton began building motorcycles with French and Swiss engines. In 1907 a Norton with Peugeot engine, ridden by Rem Fowler, won the twin-cylinder class in the first Isle of Man TT race, beginning a sporting tradition that went on until the 1960s.

Today, that feeling is replicated with the V4SV. Every sense is heightened for one of the purest riding experiences out there. It’s a buzz that others will never quite understand. From the moment the engine starts, freedom is released. When the helmet is on, everything else just disappears.

1200cc V4, 72-degree, liquid cooled engine – engineered by Norton to produce 185bhp

We’ve combined our extensive racing experience with everything we know a rider demands from a road bike. With V4SV we’ve raised the bar higher than ever before.



1 Aston Martin 2 Ferrari 250 GT 3 True (Hemi refers to engines with hemispherical combustion chambers) 4 Honda Accord 5 Fiat 6 Corolla 7 Lamborghini 8- BMW 9- B. Land, air, sea (where the company believed it would one day dominate with its engines) 10 True 11 Carroll Shelby 12 B. James Bond 13 B. Milleage 14 Peugeot (it was founded in 1810 as a coffee mill company and began producing cars in 1882) 15 Porsche 16 Pininfarina Battista (as of Feb. 2023)

TAFE COURSE FOR THE CAR RESTORER.

I enrolled in a Tafe course at the start of the year at Wollongbar Tafe in Automotive Vocational Preparation Certificate One in panelbeating and spraypainting. From the way the course was advertised, I guessed it was a sort of Pre-apprenticeship course for young people interested in gaining an apprenticeship. I rang to enquire whether there were any age restrictions thinking I would be ineligible due to being well past retirement age and was asked whether I was over 15 and unemployed to which I replied yes to both and they said I could get in to the course. I went to the first lesson and found quite a few older than my age in the course and only three under 30 out of 24 people.

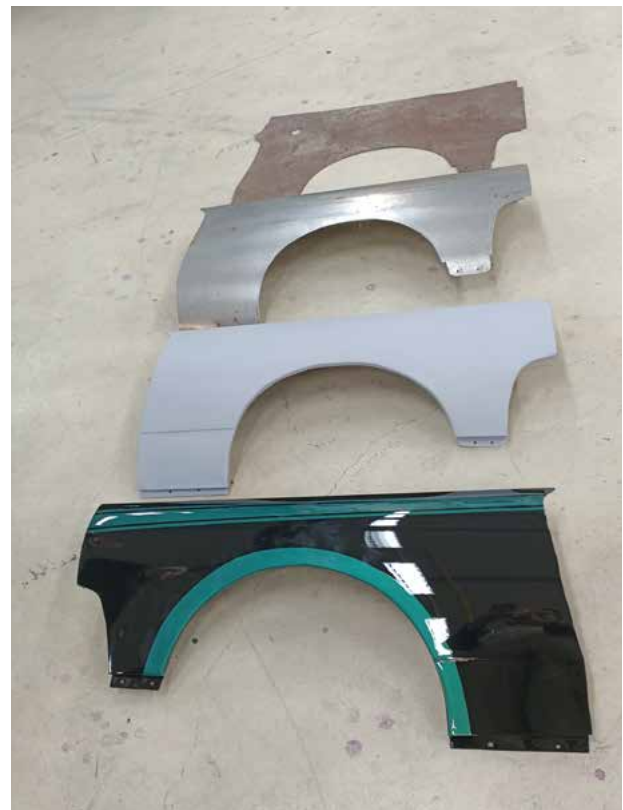
The course runs for half a year and in involves a term on panelbeating where yo start with a flat sheet of steel and learn the tasks of cutting it out, filing the edges, using an English Wheel to put shape into it, swadging it, making strenghtening ribs, welding, brazing and rust proofing it to have a complete car fender finished. The next term is learning to paint it with 12 coats of paint applied, fillers, pinstriping and finishing with clear coating and the final job looks excellent.

The classes had 12 students in each and the two teachers were excellent. The course cost was zero for the unemployed and all materials and safety gear was provided as part of the course.

For any serious car restorer or any one looking to upskill them selves, this is a great course!!

The photo shows the various stages of the project. They had class members in their 70's and all ages enjoyed the course. It was three and a half hours per week and I would obviously recommend it. While I would now consider painting motorbikes, it was useful.

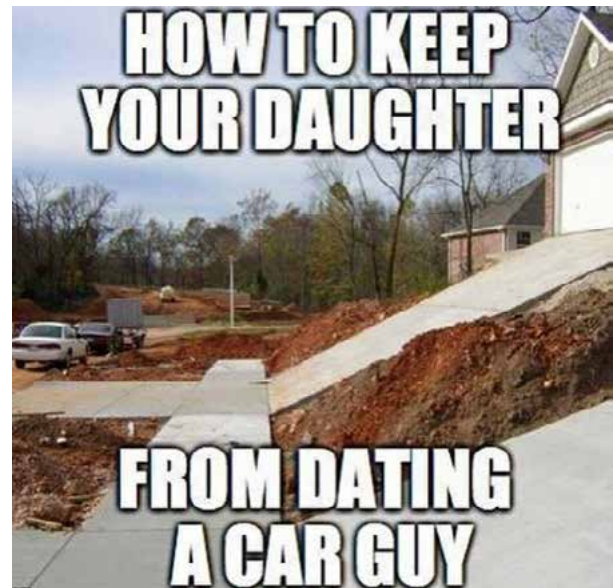
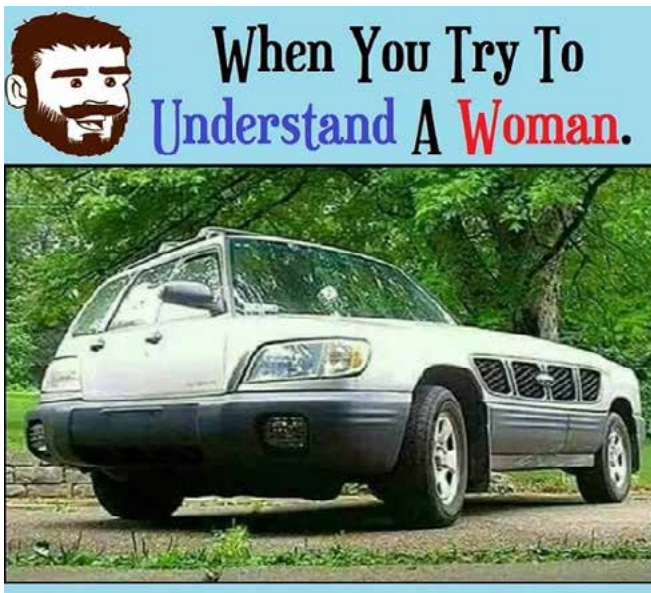
Lindsay Smith



DO YOU KNOW YOUR CARS?

- 1 Which British manufacturer of luxury cars was founded by Lionel Martin and Robert Bamford in 1913?
- 2 With limited production and designed by Enzo Ferrari himself, this car is one of the most rare cars in the world.
- 3 True or False: A hemi-engine and a V-8 engine are the same thing.
- 4 What was the first American-produced Japanese car?.
- 5 What auto brand's name is an Italian acronym?.
- 6 Toyota's most popular brand of car is the _____.
- 7 Which sports car brand is named after a type of bull?.
- 8 The luxury car manufacturer, Bayerische Motoren Werke AG, is also known as:
- 9 The classic three-pointed star of the Mercedes Benz logo symbolizes what three things?
 - a. Speed, safety, sophistication
 - b. Land, air, sea
 - c. Luxury, longevity, quality
 - d. Air, wind, fire
- 10 True or False: Karl Friedrich Benz is credited to making the first gasoline automobile.
- 11 The movie Ford vs Ferrari follows the story of what real-life driver who dreamed of creating a car that could race against the Corvette and Ferrari?.
- 12 What film character popularized the Aston Martin?
 - a. Bruce Wayne
 - b. James Bond
 - c. Indiana Jones.
- 13 What does the odometer measure?
 - a. Speed
 - b. Mileage
 - c. Temperature.
- 14 What is the oldest car company?
- 15 What car company made the first car with a turbocharger?
- 16 What is the fastest accelerating car in the world?

answers page 7



MY Mechanic

Lic. No. MVRL 45955

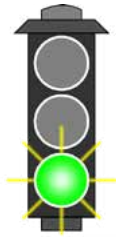
Repairs • Service • Rego Checks

Adam Prowse

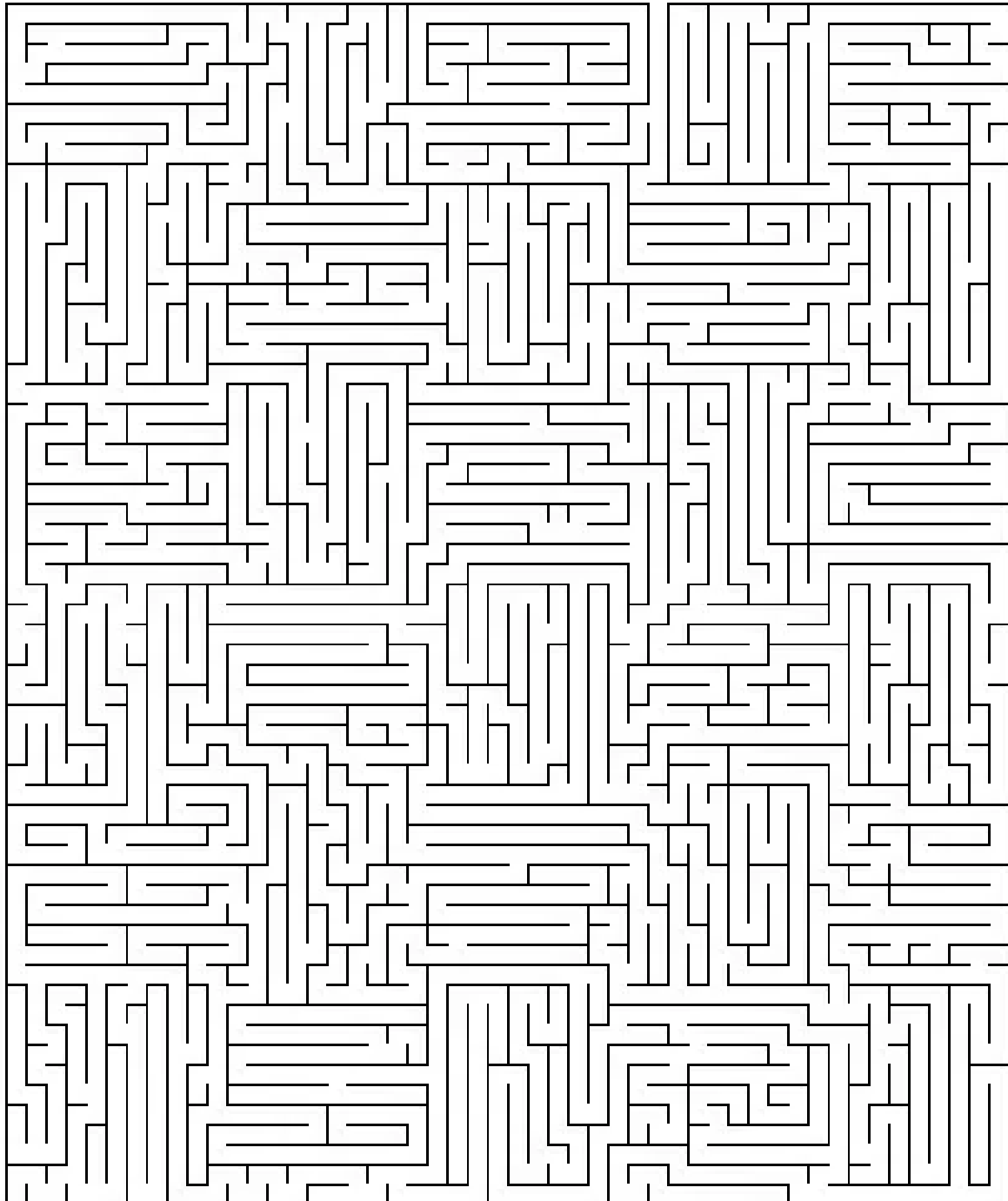
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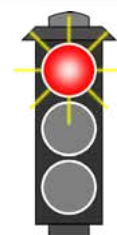
Adam supports the Club with "lucky door prizes" for our meetings.
Thanks Adam



START



END



OLD FASHIONED FUDGE CAKE



1 cup sugar
 200gm butter
 2 heaped tablespoons cocoa
 2 beaten eggs
 Put all these ingredients into a pot and cook until melted.
 Add 2 packets of super wine crushed (I use 1 packet of Malt and one packet of super wine)
 Put into a greased sandwich tin and place in the fridge. (I put straight into the fridge to chill first.)

ICING

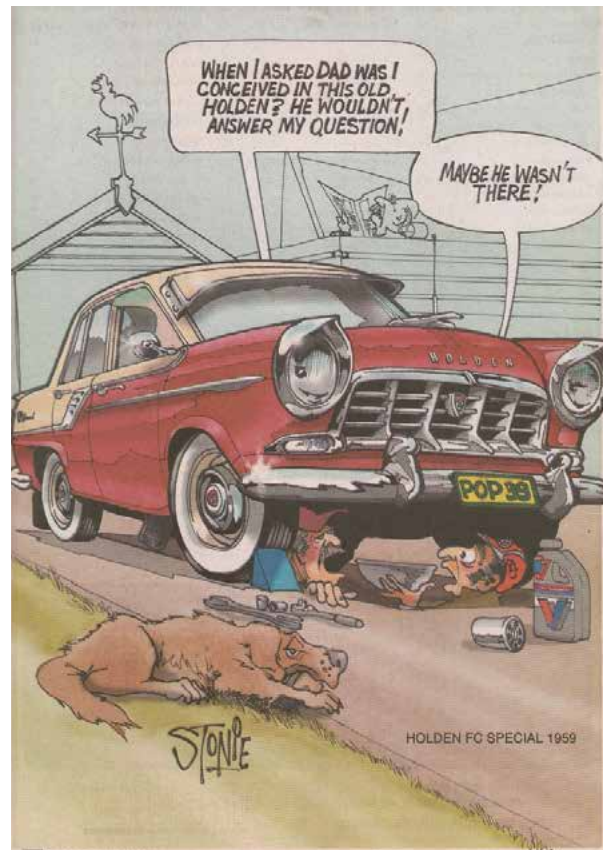
Knob of butter and 1/6th cup of milk. Heat in microwave.
 Add cocoa and icing sugar.
 raspberries in halves and place in a pattern on top and finely grate white chocolate blocks over for garnishing

Tom visited Ballina recently and was shown around by Santo and the Ed.

He has a number of cars including Hot Rodes, Vauxhall and a Darrecq vintage car.

He is a member Of the following clubs;

- Whanganui Vintage Car Club
- Model A car club
- Whanganui Rodders, Hot Rod Club
- Veteran's Car Club of NZ (Nationwide).



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October 7th

Visiting the Lismore Powerhouse:
8:00 to 9:30 am all meet at Summerland for
early/quick breakfast.
Drive to Lismore – maybe longer run
10:00 am (pending route taken) – Powerhouse
Tour

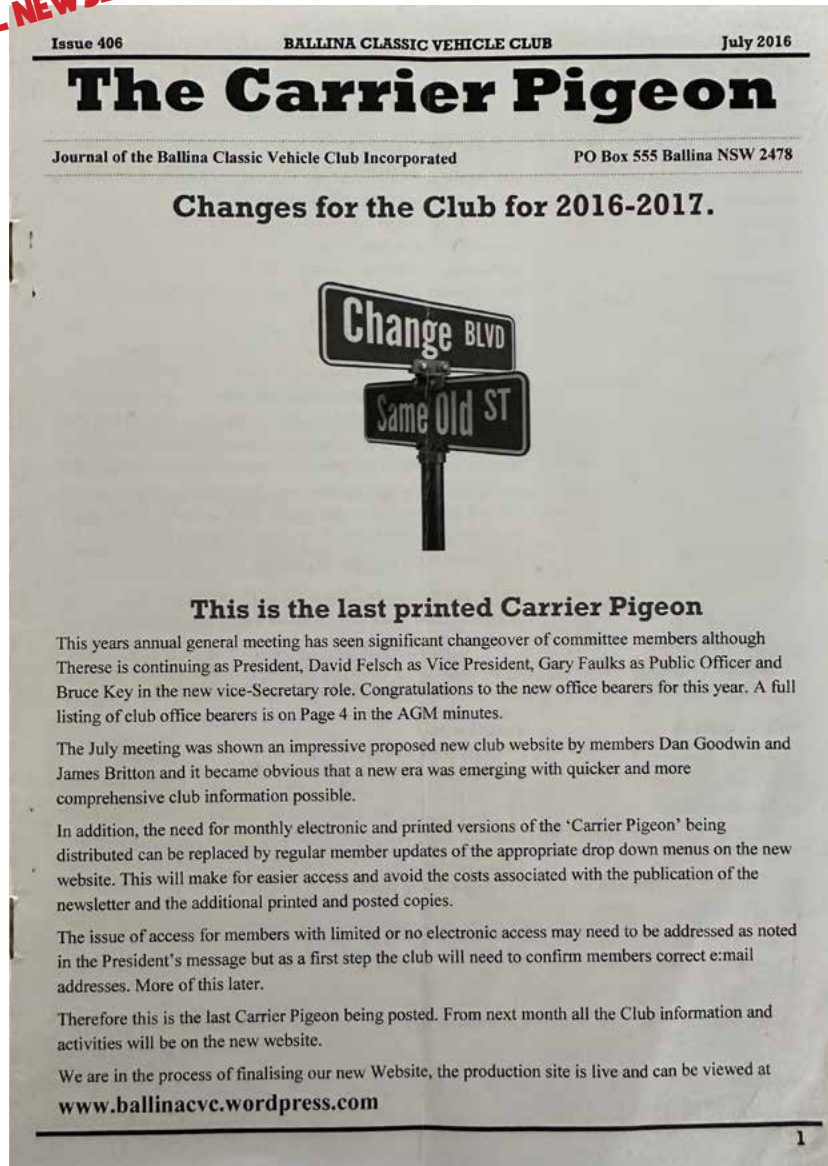
November 11th

Summerland House breakfast

December 1st (Friday)

Christmas Function - venue TBA but possibly
Che Bon as it has a fixed price meal.

**FROM THE ARCHIVE
LAST ORIGINAL NEWSLETTER**



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