

**March 2020**



# The Chevroletletter

*Official publication of The Chevrolet Club of WA Inc.*

*Issue number 410*



Alas, poor Humpy, I knew him well. RIP Holden.

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# Editorial

Hullo All Members,

The Editorial of the February Chevroletletter which gave somewhat mixed praise to the GM company must have upset the top blokes in Detroit (or wherever they are), as they are moving to close down Holden operations in Australia and will no longer build RHD vehicles, stating that less than 40% of the world's vehicles are driven on the left. That still leaves a lot of vehicles, as Japan, the UK, Oceania, Thailand, Malaysia, India and most of southern Africa drive on the left. It seems that building vehicles which can be adapted to either left or right was just too hard for them. Most of the world's car makers can manage, so why not GM?

Of course, the big news is that Holden, a brand name associated with GM for many years will no longer exist. The poor old lion has pushed the rock downhill and is growling and retreating into his cave, never to re-emerge. This has some serious flow on effects in the new and used car market, and dealers must be scratching their heads in dismay. The old ditty; 'Football, meat pies, kangaroos and Holden cars' just won't sound the same with Mazda or Hyundai in its place.

There are many who say that we should take the Holden name and build electric cars in Australia, but I will bet you London to a brick that GM has retained the rights over that name.

Well, what to do? The GM Owners' Day event will still be held this year, and although two years ago we celebrated 70 years of Holden cars, they will be around for a good number of years yet, even gaining some status, like a former Prime Minister whose faults are forgotten and achievements lauded, to the point of having a school named after him. We have two such in WA already.

"Holdin' you in my Holden?" Not any more.

Keep on Chevying,  
Hugh.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi and welcome Chev Club Members.

Gee these months roll around rather quickly and sometimes when I sit at my desk to do the report I struggle to find something to write about. I don't think it will be a problem this month.

With all this thunder and lightning and rain it didn't stop our mid-week run to Alfred's Kitchen in Guildford, a great turn out.

We had the busy bee on the Club trailer last weekend and got most jobs done and had a test run with putting up and taking down the two new marquees which look very impressive, so we will be using them and the trailer at our next event which is the classic car show at Ascot Racecourse.

On another matter I was having a cruise in the street rod the other day and noticed a Mercedes car behind me but didn't take much notice, but as I got closer to home it was still there. The car pulled into a parking bay and then backed out and followed me again. When we got near home it turned into the side street so I turned into our driveway and stopped and looked in the mirror and the Merc was stopped across the drive way, facing the wrong way, so I walked up to ask what was going on and it sped away before I could get the rego number. I know in the past people have been followed and had their cars stolen. I thought I was aware of what was going down but in stopping and making turns I made the fatal mistake so hope I don't get a visit.

I also noticed some very cheap air fares to the USA, around the \$800 mark return. A pity the A dollar is so low at this time.

Well that's about all from me this month, so will see you out and about in that Chev.

Roly.



## New Members

Welcome to Paul and Tracey Luters of Joondana who drives an original 1960 Impala, Peter, Jud, Guy and Adam House of Gabbadah who own an as yet unrestored 1955 Chevrolet Sedan, and Bre Beazley, another member of the famous clan.

## COMING EVENTS

- Mar 8:** 2020 Shannon's Classic Car Show – RSVP only.  
**Mar 28:** Brookton Old Time Motor Show.  
**Mar 29:** VAA Swapmeet at Guildford Polo Grounds.  
**Apr 5:** Car Collection (Brought forward a week due to Easter).  
**Apr 12:** All Australian Car Day, Waroona.  
**April 19:** Curtin Radio Car Spectacular, Trinity Playing Fields.  
**Apr 22:** Mid-week Run (Flying Monkeys – Morley)  
**May 3:** Run to Moondyne Festival (earlier due to Mother's Day)  
**May22-26:** Busselton Weekend – 5 Villas Booked – please call  
**Jun 14:** President's Run & AGM.

### **MARCH EVENT (8<sup>th</sup>) – CMC Classic Car Show**

*Meet 8:00am at Ascot Racecourse*

You should have already booked as per emails as it is all done online this year. We are unable to supply a BBQ at this event, so it is either a picnic or one of the food vendors on the day. If you wish to attend, please contact myself (0401 145 319) to let you know how to book (if you still can). See the flyer in the magazine. Cars can only start arriving after 8am but need to be in place by 9am. No movement is permitted until 3pm when the show ends.

### **APRIL EVENT (5<sup>th</sup>)– Car Collection**

*Meet 9:00am at Centrepoint Shopping Centre, Midland.*

We will cruise up to Aunty Cath's Café before heading over to a private car collection (thanks to Lindsay for organising). For lunch we will be at Pinjarra Bakery, Maddington where we have the whole top section for ourselves.

### **MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> Apr – Clubrooms at 3pm**

#### **Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup>) – Mid-Week Run (Flying Monkeys Restaurant)**

*Meet 6:30pm at 266 Walter Rd W, Morley (Old Fast Eddys, Morley)*

There has been a change in venue, but you can still get a pizza if you like (they are 16", so feed the family) as well as burgers or even a lamb shank or BBQ prawns. We have our own private room along with a 10% discount on food and drinks which is a bonus. Plenty of free parking for everyone.

**PAST EVENTS**  
**FEBRUARY EVENT**

**Sunday (9<sup>th</sup>) – Fish & Chips on Rockingham Foreshore**

We did our normal trip down to the Rockingham foreshore after the February meeting. For some reason we seem to always be there on a windy day and this one was no different. Everyone went to their favourite food vendor (since there are a few to choose from) and sat down in the park in a large circle to eat and to have a quiet chat.

**Wednesday (26<sup>th</sup>) – Mid-Week Run (Alfred's Kitchen)**

With the weather bureau forecasting storms, we still had a great turn out of 17 people. We took over a carriage to make sure we were out of any weather (which did not come to pass) and we ordered our burgers. It was a busy night at Alfred's (as it normally is), but they came out in a timely manner. As usual there was lots of food and even more talking.



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## Paul's Birthday Book

Name	Day
Tracey Utley (1982)	4
Jim Reid (1951)	5
Vaughn Michels (1967)	6
Rod Vogel (1964)	9
Paul Fullwood (1977)	9
Todd Beckett (1967)	19
Kerren Campbell (1965)	22
Heather Taylor (1949)	24
Joseph Saliba (1941)	24
Riley Wood (2005)	25
Gillian Argentino (1969)	26
John Cotton (1943)	27
Brendan Whitely (1967)	28



To have your name in the Birthday list please advise Paul Fullwood, so we can recognise all milestones.

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*Large selection of memorabilia and bar stools*

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# Merchandise For Sale

\$ 5.00 — Pens

\$ 7.50 — Key ring (With clip)

\$ 2.50 — Key ring (Round)

\$ 3.00 — LED light

\$ 6.50 — Stubby Holder

\$15.00— Caps

\$15.00— Bags

\$25.00— Shirts (This is the starting price)

The club has merchandise for sale, including these bags which we have just purchased.



Back Pack

Tote

*Bags available as pictured*

*Available at the club rooms.*

## A Meritorious Man.

Andrew the drover from a huge cattle station in the Australian outback appeared before St. Peter at the Pearly Gates.

"Have you ever done anything of particular merit?" St. Peter asked.

"Well, I can think of one thing," the drover offered. "Once, on a trip to the back blocks of Broken Hill out in New South Wales, I came across a gang of bikers who were threatening a young sheila. I told them to leave her alone, but they wouldn't listen. So I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed biker and smacked him in the face, kicked his bike over, ripped out his nose ring, and threw it on the ground. I yelled, "Now, back off!! Or I'll kick the shit out of the lot of ya!" St. Peter was impressed, "When did this happen?"

A couple of minutes ago."



# BUSSELTON WEEKEND AWAY

Rough guide of what we will be doing-

**\*\*\*Subject to availability, weather, etc\*\*\***

**Saturday**—

**\*\*\* 2 rooms left to fill \*\*\***

4 villas fully booked now.

**Sunday**—

I will need another 2 rooms to fill another villa (3 rooms in each) or if someone decides to not go so please let me know and it will be first in first served.

**Monday**—

**Last month to RSVP.**

**Date: Fri 22nd - Tue 26th May, 2020.**

**Cost: \$220 / couple for 4 nights Accom.**

**Also includes gold coin entry donations**

**Contact: Paul on 0401 145 319**

- Each room with own ensuite and communal lounge
- Unable to discount for shorter stay as it is a fixed price
- Come along for all or part of the weekend
- Cost is for accommodation & gold coin donation entries
- Food and other cost at your own expense
- **RSVP by 9/2/2020**—if you think you might go, let me know
- \$100 deposit paid by 5/4/2020, balance on arrival

## Holden Highlights

Since the release of the 48/215 Holden in November 1948 there has been a multitude of models and names associated with the brand. It's impossible to catalogue all of these in this magazine, so here goes with the Editor's choice of favourite Holdens. Bear in mind that for a time he was an avid Chrysler Valiant man but owned an EK ute, EH sedan, One Tonne and HZ Kingswood utes. He eschewed the Ford range until driving many of this brand during his working life. He still drives a Falcon ute. Now, many Chevrolet addicts would wonder why we are giving space to this now defunct name. Well, after all, Holden is like our dear little sister, tolerated and patronized.

The first two models of the marque, the 48/215 and FJ, were styled on past Chevrolets, so didn't win prizes for their looks, but because of their Australian built origin and reliability sold very well. Along came the FE and FC range in the mid 50s and were right up to the styling mark. My favourite was the FC.

The less said about the FB/EK models the better, being styling leftovers from the 50s, pudgy and underpowered with the first auto transmissions. The EJ had style but still kept the old grey motor. Who wouldn't have wanted an EH with the new 179 motor? It looked good too. Then followed a number of models which were just plain boring, until the first Monaro arrived. It was a hit with the young brigade, until they married and had to make room for the kids.

The Kingswood style lasted a long while, but it was one of my faves. The HZ ute was to me the best proportioned and attractive model since the FC. Mine did 300,000 kms on the first engine.

Meanwhile, Holden brought out the Torana. Ahh, the XU1's throaty roar was pleasing to the ears while later models took on all comers and kept winning races. It made Peter Brock a household name.

What can I say about the Commodore, apart from the fact that some were very good and others pretty ordinary. A major failing is that they were very easy to steal, as my son found out one night (no, it was his that was pinched). Like them or not, the Commodore has made its mark in Australian motoring. The early ones were much smaller than the Kingswood, but grew more bulky and heavy over time. Well, haven't we all.



What about the Holden models that didn't set you on fire? Well, the Holden Brougham (pronounced 'broom' as per the horse drawn carriage) and the later Kingswood Caprice, were just bog standard cars with longer boots, trying to compete with the Ford Fairlane.

The Gemini was a very ordinary little car which tried to look bigger, and what positive thing can you say about the Camira? Supposed to be a 'world car', the engine was guaranteed to smoke by the 60,000 km mark, and the resale value fell like a rock.

The Commodore utes were nothing very inspiring as their load capacity didn't match the Ford. But they appealed to the young, especially the Maloo.

Looking to the future, we can expect various Chevrolet models to arrive in Australia, but with the cost of conversion to RHD they will be limited to the higher priced range.

It's been a long ride with Holden, but the end of the road is here.

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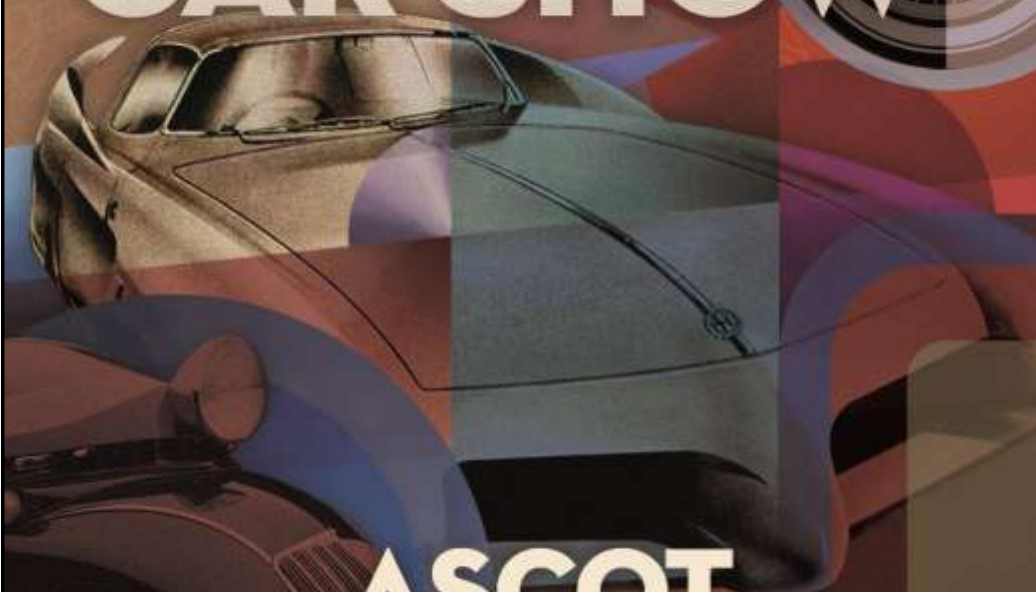


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## General Motors Specialty Vehicles

With the Holden name to be retired by the end of this year, General Motors is considering a new sub-brand called **General Motors Specialty Vehicles (GMSV)** that would sell selected US models – most of which will be converted to right-hand-drive by the company formerly known as [Holden Special Vehicles](#), and which currently imports the [Chevrolet Camaro](#) muscle car and [Chevrolet Silverado](#) pick-up.

The Camaro and Silverado are currently sold through 65 of Holden's 204 dealers nationally. It is unclear which of those dealers will continue under the proposed GMSV name and new arrangements.

While the new deal would initially apply to existing models such as the Chevrolet Camaro SS, Chevrolet Camaro ZL1, Chevrolet Silverado 2500 and upcoming Chevrolet Silverado 1500, other models out of the US are expected to follow.

Options include the Chevrolet Tahoe and Suburban seven-seat SUVs, as well as certain Cadillac SUVs that share their underpinnings. There is also the possibility the electric Hummer pick-up – due to go into production in the US two years from now – could be sold in Australia some time down the road if converted to right-hand-drive locally.

The introduction of the GMSV sub-brand also solves the problem of what badge to sell the iconic Chevrolet Corvette sports car under. It is due in Australian showrooms next year but will be factory-built in right-hand-drive. Its rear-engine layout made the conversion easier and more affordable on this model.



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## CARS AND PARTS FOR SALE

**2 Corvettes. #1.1970** – includes \$9,700 of new parts, rims, wheel trims, caps, tyres, lots of interior trim items including complete new door trims, front end bumper brackets, new indicator lenses, light actuators etc, full list of parts can be supplied on demand.\$28,500.

**#2.1964** – Very nice car, only needs registration. The exterior has been re-sprayed recently, the interior is original.\$80,000. For both cars contact Graham on 0424 817 972.

**1959 Bel Air.** Partly restored, original engine, new paint, just needs assembling. Phone the Editor on 0427 381 491 or email for details.

**1954 Bel Air.** 2 door LHD fully restored, exc. cond. new tyres, wheel spats, bright red, \$30,000. See page 15. Also a **1993 Chev Silverado pickup.** RHD Sydney conversion, power steering, air con, bullbar, 350ci V8, \$17,000. Both for genuine sale (Maxine said so). Phone 9276 2519 or 0419 401 941.

**1957 210 2 door Sedan,** 75% restored, needs final paint, small block 383, turbo 700 trans., new tyres, rubber seals and chrome. \$28,000. Contact dave.oneton@gmail.com or davebcm@hotmail.com. Phone 0448 515 794.

### Wanted

**1956 V8.** A right side exhaust manifold for a 1956 265ci Chevy V8. The 265 is different from the 283ci, so if any one can help I would be grateful.

Email Ricky on kirker@westnet.com.au

**1961 Impala:** Front and rear bumpers, glovebox lid, ashtray, 283/327 motor and gearbox. Call James on 0487 832 833.

**59 Chev Bel Air** Parts or information of whereabouts of parts to suit 4 door sedan. Mine is left hand drive. Call Jason 0477583172.

**1927** 6 volt starter motor for a 1927 Capitol AA. Call Colin on 0419955342  
Or email: [vulcanbandits@bigpond.com](mailto:vulcanbandits@bigpond.com)





A very productive day was held on Sunday February 22 when a group of members got together and sorted out the Club trailer. From these pictures, they have done a sterling job. We rely heavily on these chaps and ladies to get things done. They were Neil, Roly, Rick, Lindsay, Joe, Bindi, Joan, Luke and Paul. Well done all.







Top: the BBQ is placed in its new position on the side of the trailer, Joe being supervised by Lindsay and Rick.

At left, the storage system has an overhaul.

Below, Neil toils on while an audience gathers around. It's always easy to get free advice at these functions.



# **The Chevrolet Club of WA Inc.**

**P.O. BOX 351 ARMADALE WA 6992**

Website Address: [www.chevclubwa.com.au](http://www.chevclubwa.com.au)

## **Committee**

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## **LIFE MEMBERS**

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Roly Richardson, Rick Beazley

Heather and Peter Taylor

Hugh Morison.

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Rick Beazley ph: 9419 3149

PROPERTY OFFICERS

Roly Richardson, Rick Beazley &

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Neil Fullwood ph: 0407 424 950

CLUB LIBRARIAN

Roly Richardson 0451 952 122

TEA PERSON

Heather Taylor ph: 0477 055 909

MERCHANDISE

Beth Ridley ph: 9419 2980

**The next Club meeting will be held at Ridley's Holden  
Museum on Sunday April 5 at 3pm.**