

49 - 59 FORD CUSTOMLINE



CAR CLUB OF VICTORIA Inc.

THE PREMIER CAR CLUB FOR YOUR
FABULOUS FIFTIES FORD CUSTOMLINE

**CONGRATULATIONS
AND CELEBRATIONS**



*To all 1956 Ford Customlines
as this Year is your 50th Birthday*

March - April - May - 2006 Newsletter

49 – 59 Ford Customline Car Club of Victoria Inc.

“Dedicated to the preservation, restoration and enjoyment of
V8 Fords built throughout the years 1949 to 1959”.

2005-2006 Committee Members.

President: Ken Lee
Vice President: Wayne Paterson
Secretary: Harry Beckwith
Treasurer: Frank Beale
Newsletter Editor: Rob Brereton
Property Officer: Ray Shalders
Trophies: Phil Butt
Club Merchandise: Phil Butt
Runs Co-ordinator: Combined Effort
Committee Members: Awaiting Confirmation

AOMC Representatives: Ken Lee
Wayne Paterson
Ray Shalders

Club Permits are available from:
Harry Beckwith
Phil Butt
Ken Lee
Wayne Paterson

Please feel free to contact any of the committee or relevant reps for
any queries on any of the above phone numbers, or write to:

49-59-Ford Customline Car Club of Victoria Inc.
PO Box 221 Reservoir 3073 Victoria Australia.

Or if you wish you can send an e-mail to
Rob Brereton at: rbrereton@optusnet.com.au

**Club Meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday,
Bi-monthly, commencing at 11:30 am,
and followed by a sausage sizzle.**

The Next Meeting Dates are:

April 16th General Meeting
June 18th General Meeting
August 20th Annual General Meeting

**Our Meeting Place is at the
Sunbury R.S.L. Rooms
Corner of Barkly &
Macedon St. Sunbury.
Melways Ref: 382-F4.**

Rob Brereton. Newsletter Editor.
Phone: (03) 9555-4160 or E-mail to:
rbrereton@optusnet.com.au

The Club Newsletter.

This Newsletter is at present published four times a year by the 49-59 Ford Customline Car Club of Victoria Inc, Registered No: A0018043T, PO Box 221 Reservoir 3073, Victoria Australia, and is free to all financial members.

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Unless stated otherwise the views, opinions and beliefs expressed in the newsletter are those of their authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor or the Club.

Submitting Articles and Photos.

This newsletter is prepared using a word processor and is photocopied by the Club. It is preferable to type articles and reports but they can be in e-mail format or most word processing formats, and if any of these are unavailable they can then be submitted in neatly, legible hand written format.

Electronic images should be submitted as JPEG's, GIF's or Bitmaps. They should be attached to e-mails (or included on disks) separately and not included in the body of the e-mail article and all images should be accurately captioned.

Photos or pictures submitted, that need to be scanned by the Editor, should not be folded and should be packaged with enough protection to ensure their safety in transit.

Articles and images can be submitted to the Editor by Post, i.e., hand written, typed, or on 3.5inch floppy disks or CD's, to 13 Isabella St Moorabbin 3189 Vic. Aust, or via e-mail to: rbrereton@optusnet.com.au

Membership.

Anyone interested in becoming a Club Member can do so in one of the following ways. Contact the Secretary and ask for a membership application form to be mailed to you.

Come along to a General Meeting and introduce yourself to the Club Officials. Send an e-mail to the Editor and get an application by return e-mail.

**Visitors are always most welcome
to visit these meetings.**



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hi Everyone.

Another New Year has arrived and we had a great Christmas party at Lauriston Reservoir. It was nice to see Fred Frantz there in his Vicky, and a good day was had by all.

On a sad note I was told of the passing of Vince Tropeano. He attended our 30th Anniversary with his maroon twin spinner and gave us a short speech. More in this newsletter.

Another member, our Vice President Wayne Paterson, had an accident at work falling off the top of his tanker and broke both of his legs and he will be out of action for a long time. He is now at Epworth Hospital and he would like to see some visitors. We all wish him a speedy recovery and back at the wheel of his Customline before too long. More in this newsletter.

That's all from me for now, but I hope to see more members at our meetings and runs this year.

Your President. Ken Lee.

SPECIAL NOTICE OF EVENT **IN THE DRIVERS SEAT** **SANDOWN MOTOR CIRCUIT. MARCH 5TH 2006.**

Our Club is once again attending this special event for the Visually Impaired, which is put on by the Warrandyte Lions Club. If it is anything like the last few years event then it is bound to be a very enjoyable and fulfilling day. All we ask of you, if you wish to attend, is to provide you car and yourself, and family if you wish, to give these people rides in our classic vehicles. Your vehicle would be one of many Vintage, Veteran and Classic Cars there on the day, amongst an array of all sorts of Motorbikes.

The Lions Club will supply a free BBQ lunch with tea or coffee so you won't go hungry. If you wish to attend you can ring Richard on (03) or just turn up on the day at about 9:30 am, and enter Sandown Motor Circuit via the bridge or gate from the Dandenong Rd / Princess Highway side, and drive into the pit lane. Hope to see you there.

Richard van Egmond.

VALE: VINCE TROPEANO

Vince attended the Cussy Club's 30th Anniversary in July 2005, and in his own words on that day stated that "I had been a member 26 years ago", (1979), and at that time "I owned a maroon and white and a red and white Customline", and that "I attended most of the club meetings and always enjoyed myself".

It was fortunate for the Club that Vince attended that day and that he did "enjoy himself" very much. I am also sure that Vince was pleased to attend as he caught up with some long lost friends of bygone days, and I am sure those friends were glad to re-ignite the friendship although it was for only a short period.



Vince attended the celebrations in his immaculate 51 twin spinner and was not shy to be pictured with it.

Vince was born on 4th of January 1956 and passed away on the 27th of November 2005, and will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.



As many have said, "he was a gentle giant", and a "great ambassador to the car club fraternity".

*Our Deepest Sympathy to his family and friends,
from all at the 49-59 Ford Customline Car Club.*

You will be greatly missed Vince.
Rest in Peace.

weird & wonderful facts about cars!



Did You Know ?

If you happen to be in a car when lightning strikes you are fairly safe, due to the Faraday Effect, in which electricity dissipates over the area of the car.

The Appleton Public Library in Minnesota documents that magician Harry Houdini has an interesting connection with the car. In 1910, when he became the first solo pilot to fly a plane in Australia, he taught himself to drive just so he could get out of the airfield, and never drove again!

Television also has a strong connection to the car, with the design of the 'Batmobile' based on a concept model made by Lincoln (a division of the Ford Motor Company) in 1955, called the "Futura".

The car - the pride and joy for some and a mode of transport for others. But no matter how you view your preferred vehicle type, here are a few facts to dazzle your friends and perhaps make you think next time you get behind the wheel.

Australians love their cars; since the 1950's the number of private cars has risen dramatically and continues to do so. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, in the 12 months ended 31 October 2004, there were an estimated 13.5 million vehicles registered in Australia.

The invention of the car can be traced back as far as Leonardo Da Vinci and later Sir Isaac Newton, who both developed theoretical plans for a self-propelled vehicle.

The first such road vehicle to be built was a military tractor invented in 1769 by French engineer and mechanic Nicolas Joseph Cugnot. Many thousands of patents were involved in the creation of the modern automobile. However, for almost as long as people have been driving cars they have been having accidents.

The Road Safety Centre in Cardiff (Wales), claims that the first recorded automobile fatality occurred on 17 August 1896, in London.

Over the years, numerous car safety features have been invented to help make drivers and their passengers safer:

. Volvo had the first safety belts in 1849, but it was not until 1959 that the modern three-point lap-and-shoulder seat belt, developed by Swedish inventor Nils Bohlin, was introduced by Volvo.

. The General Motors research team invented car safety air bags, which were first offered in the 1973 Chevrolet.

Yet despite these advances in safety, in 2004 there were 1,598 persons killed on the roads in Australia, with 27 per cent of these fatalities aged 18-25,

according to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau.

Car safety is not the only consideration for drivers - another big issue is theft. According to Stolen Cars Found (www.stolencarsfound.com), on average 260 cars are stolen in Australia daily, and most are stolen on a Friday or Saturday night. Opportunistic theft accounts for 70 per cent of stolen cars and about half of these vehicles are then used in another criminal activity.

Of course, to minimise the financial and time pressures should something happen to your car, there is a wide variety of car insurance policies available, offering a broad range of options to suit individual circumstances.

Your Editor.

FABULOUS FORDS OF THE FIFTIES



Although basically similar to the '49 and the '50 models, the 1951 Ford introduced a well-received new option, the Fordomatic Drive, an automatic transmission which did away, it was claimed, with "92% of normal driving motions" by eliminating the need to operate the clutch and the shift lever.

Initially a two-speed transmission, Fordomatic started from intermediate gear (a torque converter had been added to provide controlled slippage) and shifted into high gear as the vehicle attained speed. Coupled with the

introduction of the Fordomatic was the presentation of a new key-turn starter switch which eliminated the earlier instrument panel-mounted starter button, merely by turning the ignition key to a position beyond the ON position, the starter motor was made to turn the engine, adding to the "automatic" nature of the new Ford.

In the rear, a counter-balanced rear deck lid hinge balanced the lid and made it possible to reduce the size of the handle, a vacuum booster diaphragm built into the fuel pump smoothed the operation

of the windshield wipers. Improvements in the six-cylinder engine resulted in a Ford Six winning the Mobil Economy Run in March of 1951.

Although continuing the Crestliner in the line in a restyled version, this model was discontinued with the introduction during the winter of the beautiful new Victoria, a two-door hard top model of far more popular appearance. In all, Ford claimed that by looking ahead (to the motoring needs), it had "stepped ahead" with the improvements in the 1951 model. Ed.

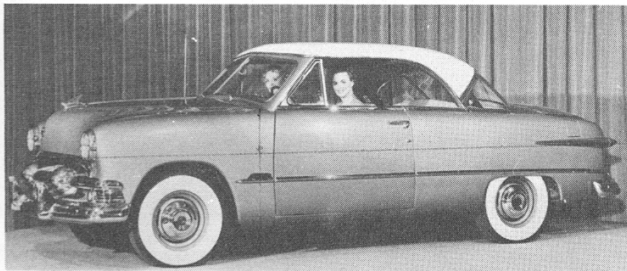
Ford for 1951

Again only minor changes were made, but a new grill design gave the cars a lower, wider look, especially from the front. New in design was the Victoria Tudor Hardtop, the first hardtop in the Ford stable. In comparison with other makes, this year's Ford was an excellent buy, with fast

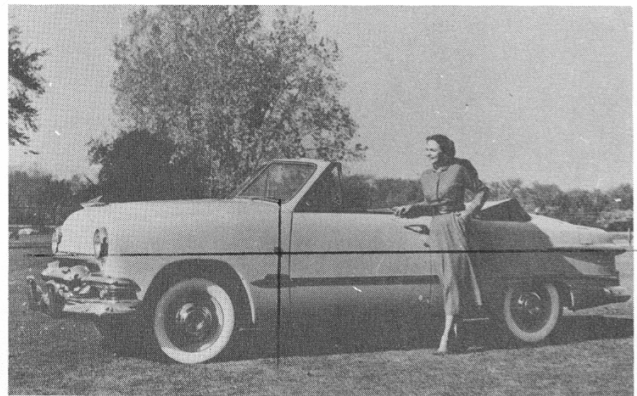
acceleration and the ability to cruise all day at a good clip. On the international scene, the English Ford was offering a full line divided among the Anglia, Prefect, and Consul, with many of these cars finding delighted buyers in the U.S. The French Ford came out with one of its most attractive cars

the Comete Coupe, with a body by Facel-Mettallon. It was driven by the small V-8 which was capable of propelling it along at 80 mph.

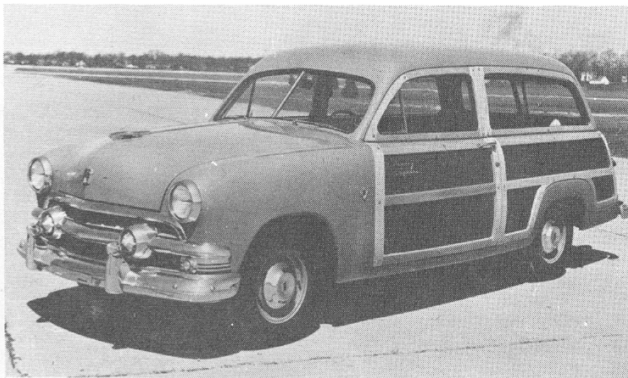
This article supplied by Jim Pierce



The first Ford hardtop was the Custom Victoria Tudor Hardtop, priced at \$2,060.



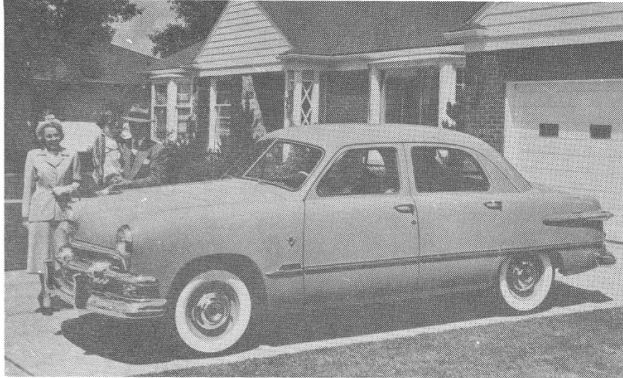
The Custom Convertible Club Coupe, at \$2,090.



Ford conceived the name Country Squire for its top wagon line this year. Available only in the Custom series, it followed lines set in 1949. Price, \$2,255.



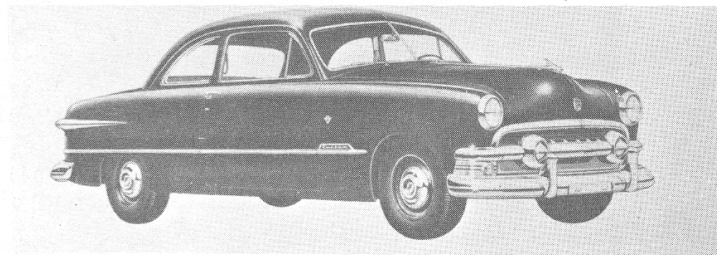
New rear end treatment made the Mercury Convertible one of the best looking cars of 1951.



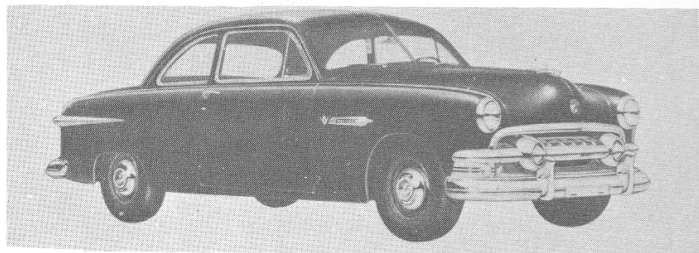
A proud family with their new Custom Fordor Sedan, costing \$1,750.



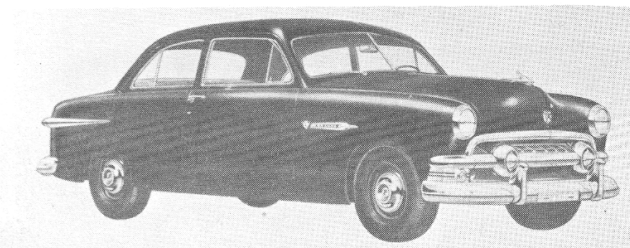
The Custom Tudor Sedan, priced at \$1,700.



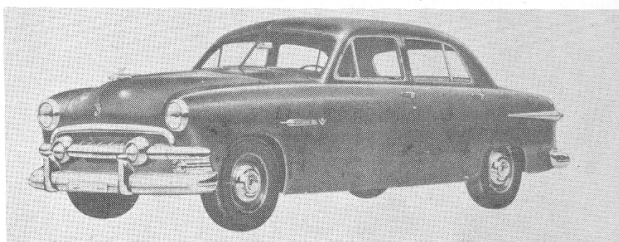
The Custom Club Coupe offered a choice of 10 exterior colors and four interior combinations. Front and rear seat arm-rests were included at \$1,705.



Almost 30 cu. feet of luggage and storage space was available in the DeLuxe Business Coupe. Rear quarter windows would not open. Price, \$1,520.



The DeLuxe Tudor Sedan was designed with more than 20 square feet of glass area. Price, \$1,600.

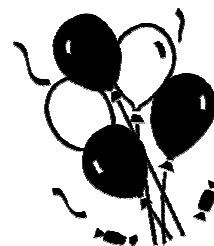


The DeLuxe Fordor Sedan was offered in six color options at \$1,650.

Happy Birthday to You
Happy Birthday to You
Happy Birthday all 56'ers
Happy Birthday to You





Congratulations to all 1956 Ford Customlines, this is your 50th year since production, so celebrate the year away and enjoy your cruzin. This is only a small sample of 56'ers out there in the wild, and I am sure their owners are very proud of their vehicles and the fact that they have evaded the "RUST MONSTER" and survived this long. All the best from everyone at the 49-59-Ford Customline Club.






Forthcoming Events

Official Club Runs are in: “**Bold Italics**” with  indicated.

March 2006

5 th 	<i>“In the Drivers Seat. Visually Impaired Day”</i> . Sandown Motor Circuit. If you wish to attend ring Richard on (03) or just turn up on the day at 9:30 am, and enter Sandown Motor Circuit via the bridge or gate from the Dandenong Rd-Princess Highway side, and drive into the pit lane.
5 th	AOMC - RACV American Motoring Show. The "New" Flemington Racecourse Car-park. Epsom Rd. Entry. 10:am to 3:30pm.
19 th 	<i>“Show ‘n’ Shine. At the Liberator Hanger”</i> , in conjunction with the Werribee & District Collectible Vehicle Club. 10:00am, Cnr Farm Rd. & Geelong Rd. Werribee. Mel Ref: 205-F10. If you are interested in attending please ring Rob on . Or meet you there. See flyer next page.
17-19 th	Rich River Rod Run. Echuca. Enquire: Les McMeekan. (03) 5859 0498.
19 th	All Makes Swap Meet. Fabulous Fins Day. Sandown. Gate 2 From 8:30am.

April 2006

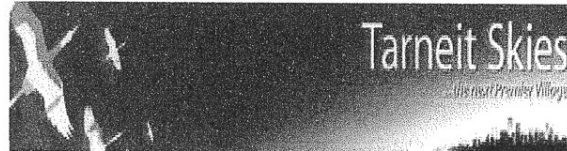
2 nd 	<i>“Lara Heritage Festival Motor Show Spectacular & Show ‘n’ Shine”</i> . Location: Lara Sports Ground. Time: From 10am. Displays form Ford Discovery Center, Many Local Car Clubs, Victoria Police Drag Cars and more, 30 trophy categories as well as spot prizes, show bags, live music and more. Meet at Fleetwings 9:30am – Depart 9:45am.
2 nd	Cruzin Magazine Nostalgia Drag Racing. Calder Park Raceway
1-7 th	RACV Fly the Flag Tour. Frank Douglas: 8704-2533
9 th 	<i>“Autumn Picnic Run to MT Franklin”</i> . Meet at Mc Donald’s Deer Park for breakfast at 9:30 for a 10:30 departure. Cruise up the Western Hwy. taking the Daylesford exit and then onto Mt Franklin Reserve. Possible short stop at the Daylesford Market. BYO Picnic lunch, drinks, chairs, tables etc. There are wood BBQ’s there if you wish to use them. Mid afternoon we will move onto Ken Lee’s place for afternoon tea and a chat.
16 th 	<i>“General Meeting”, RSL Hall Sunbury. “Bring the Cussy”, we need your support. Meeting Starts 11:30 am. Sausage Sizzle after. Location details bottom of Page 2. See you there.</i>
14-16 th	Easternats. Sandown International Raceway.
30 th	RACV British & European Motoring Show. Members Car Park Flemington Racecourse. Epsom Rd. Entry. Display cars 8.30 am. Enquiries 9890 0524

May 2006

7 th	Federation Picnic. Venue: Pakenham Racecourse Victoria. Don Jones (03)5983-8788
28 th	All Makes Chrysler Automotive Swap Meet. Display of Chryslers on the Lawn. Sandown Racecourse. Buyers \$6 from 8:30am. Enquire: (03)98900524
22 nd	AOMC Delegates Meeting Venue TBA. Enquiries: (03)95550133

We are still looking for someone to be our full time “Run’s Co-ordinator”, so if you feel that you would like to help then please contact one of the Club Officials.

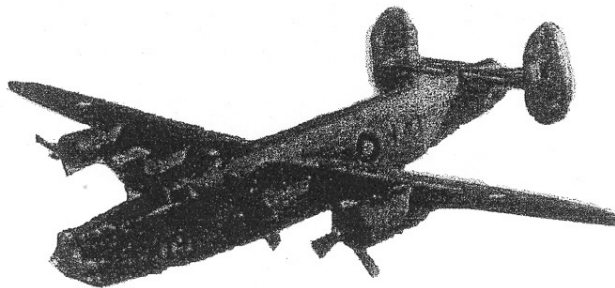
Also, we are always looking for interesting places to go on our runs, so if you find somewhere interesting then please let us know.



WERRIBEE & DISTRICT COLLECTABLE VEHICLE CLUB

Proudly sponsored by Tarneit Skies

PRESENTS THE 2006 WEERAMA SHOW "N" SHINE



IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE B24 LIBERATOR BOMBER RESTORATION FUNDRAISER

**Sunday 19th March 2006 10:00am at the B24 hanger cnr
Farm Rd. and Geelong Rd. Werribee Melways ref 205
F10.**

Prizes for all classes:
Vintage, Veteran, Classic, Modern, Trucks and Motorcycles.

Onsite catering.

Trade and Club Displays most welcome.
This year an invitation for stallholders is most welcome (eg. Craft or new items only).

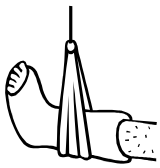
Contact the Secretary for details on 9749 3376

VICE PRESIDENT TAKES A BREAK



OR WAS THAT FOUR BREAKS

Our Vice President Wayne Paterson decided to take a “BREAK” as of Friday 13th of January. We are not really sure yet if he was trying to get out of work, get time away from the missus, or for some other reasons. But in any case he succeeded in getting himself some time off work.



Unfortunately though it was really not the sort of time off that he would have hoped for. As a result of a Workplace accident he found himself laid up in Footscray Hospital with two broken legs. Three breaks in the left leg below the knee and one break in the right leg below the knee. Other than that he seemed to have no other injuries other than probably his pride. I suppose he was very lucky to have only received broken legs when for some strange reason an unknown force took him from the ladder of his tanker and hurled him to the ground.



He lay there for a short while at the back of his tanker until he was found by an employee of the plant where he was delivering his load. Subsequently an ambulance was called and he was transported to hospital. After four operations, several screws, some mechanical attachments, wads of plaster and plenty of pain killer, plus all the necessary medical equipment, he then lay flat on his back to await the recovery process.



Well here he is, at left, laid up in hospital.



And below you can see the steel work on his left leg to keep it all in the right place. Before this pic was taken he had that framework all the way down the left leg and also the same full length framework on the right leg.



Wayne has had wonderful support from his wife, June, with her attending every day at the hospital to help him in his recovery.

He has also had visits from many of his family and friends, neighbours, and from some members of the Cussy Club.

He was transported from Footscray Hospital to Epworth Hospital on the 2nd February, where they have all the right equipment to look after Wayne while he cannot put his feet to the ground. He is receiving good treatment and Physio there and has now mastered the art of getting out of bed and into a wheelchair. Just don't get too close to the wheelchair though, as his skills in that department are not as good as his other driving skills.



He will probably be quite skilled though by the time he leaves Epworth as he is not able to put any weight on his legs at all for the next three months. Then I suppose it will take him some time to get himself up and mobile under his own power.

Joan's choc get well message.

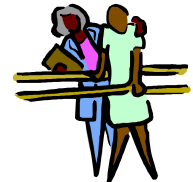


Here's June giving him some comfort and support.

I am sure that you would be most welcome if you were to visit Wayne at Epworth during his recovery. The visiting hours are from 4pm to 8pm weekdays and 12 midday to 8pm Saturday and Sunday. You can find him at Epworth Hospital's, Normanby Building South on the 3rd floor, Room 13B.



GET WELL SOON WAYNE



Report and Pictures by Rob Brereton.

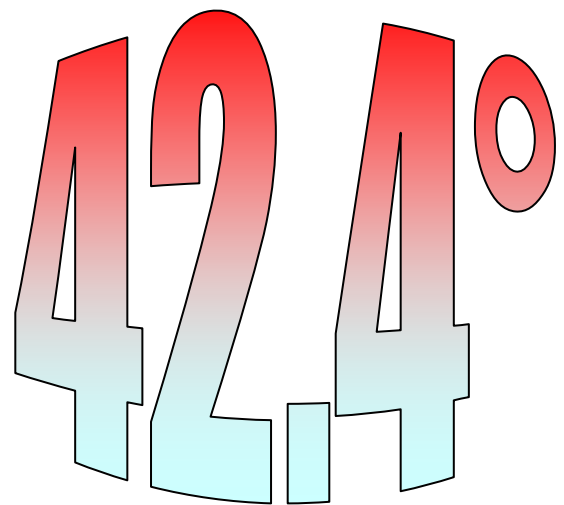


Sugarloaf Reservoir Picnic Run

Unfortunately the run to Sugarloaf Reservoir for a lovely picnic day by the water was cancelled due to the extreme nature of the weather on that day. The temperature, from what I heard, peaked out at 42.4°, somewhat hotter than the expected 40° predicted by the weather bureau.

It was decided to cancel the run and reschedule it for another day to be decided, that decision will probably be made at the next general meeting.

I hope we contacted everyone who intended to be there that day, and that no member was left sitting at McDonalds wondering what had happened.



I suppose this is something to keep in mind in case we have another scorcher on another run day.

Your President, Ken Lee.

NEW MEMBERS

We now have a list of new and renewed members over the past six months.

Jeff Cilia. From St Albans, Jeff has a 49-50 Single Spinner Convertible, tilt front. Hope that's right Jeff.

Joe & Connie Vella. From Newport. Sorry I don't have car details. I am sure they were previous members of the Club.

Ray Shalders. From Tarneit. Ray has a few cars on his lot. Ray was one of the Club's founding members. Ray has again become more involved with the Club

Tony & Wendy Potiriadis. From Bacchus Marsh. Sorry no details here either. They were both previous members.

Craig Roper. From Sydenham. Craig has a 57 Sedan. Craig's dad was a very early member of the Club.

BOOK REVIEW

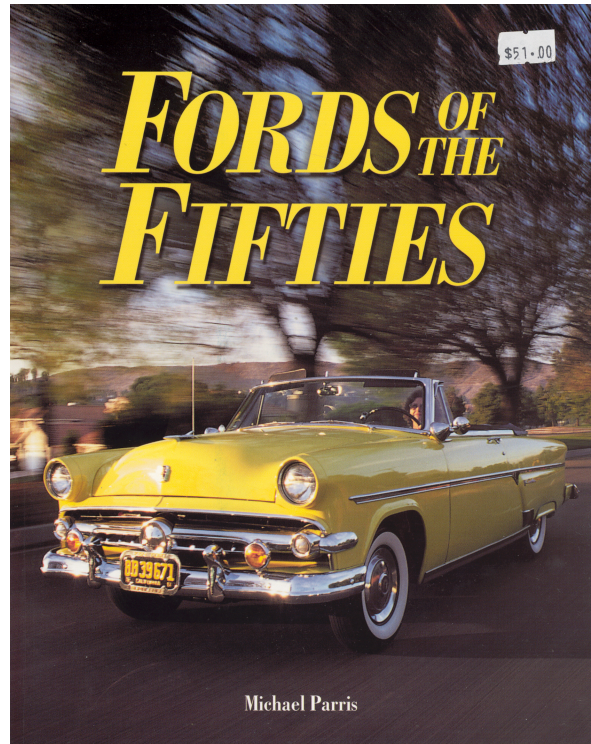
Fords Of The Fifties (soft cover) is an excellent book that you should have in your library.

All the pages are gloss finish with heaps of quality colour and black & white photos covering the years 1949 to 1959, now what better period could you ask for.

There are 182 pages of photos, brochures, technical details etc, and is excellent reading, or you can just drool over the pictures, yeah I know!

I purchased my copy from Graffiti Publications for \$51.00 plus \$8.50 P&H. I paid for it via direct deposit into their bank account and it was delivered in a week.

Rob Brereton.



Customline Classifieds

FOR SALE:

Frank Beale has these bits for sale:

1950 Chassis & Body for a Coup Utility. No running gear.

Offers Please.

Ring Frank on: 9

Happy Snaps

Some More Blasts from the Past

Memories

Do you remember when all new Star Models came with a 12ft, two person canoe strapped to the roof.

Both car & canoe still exist but not now together, they have parted and live separate lives.

Pictures supplied by the Editor.



I am not too sure about what is going on down the back here. Two familiar souls who own these shapes of car seem very interested in something.

Maybe they are just commenting on what has happened with it since they last saw it.

Now who wants to own a Mainline just like this one.

Seems like it has seen much better days in the past, but, with some tender loving care and wads of cash anything is possible these days.

Ed.



Happy Birthday to You



Best Wishes to these people and all others celebrating their Birthdays during these months

March

1st Peter Fogarty
6th Gilbert Trigg
25th Sue Hayward
28th P Cox

April

5th Connie Vella
5th P Hird



15th Barb Van Egmond
20th Joe Vella
20th Ruth McClure
22nd Col Farnham

May

2nd Jim Bryant
23rd A McKenzie
29th Jim Pierce

You're Gunna Love These

Q. "What is the longest sentence you can get from just two words".

A. "I DO".

This joke was sent in by Ray Kilby. I hope Sandra doesn't read this Ray, because she has sent in a joke also, see below.

"Love is Grand" ----- "Divorce is a 100 Grand".

Thanks Sandra.

We hope a couple of light hearted jokes won't disrupt the harmony at the Kilby residence too much, and we hope you recover soon Ray!

One day a 12 year old boy was walking down the street when a car pulled up beside him and the driver wound down his window. "I'll give you a bag of lollies if you get in the car", said the driver. "No way, get stuffed!", replied the boy. Well how about a bag of lollies and 10 bucks", said the driver.

"I said no way", replied the boy.

"What about a bag of lollies and 50 bucks?" asked the driver.

"No, I'm not getting in the car", answered the boy.

"Okay, Okay, I'll give you a bag of lollies and a 100 bucks", the driver offered.

"NO!", replied the boy.

"Then what will it take to get you in the car?", asked the driver.

The boy replied:

"Listen Dad, you bought the Volvo, you live with it!"

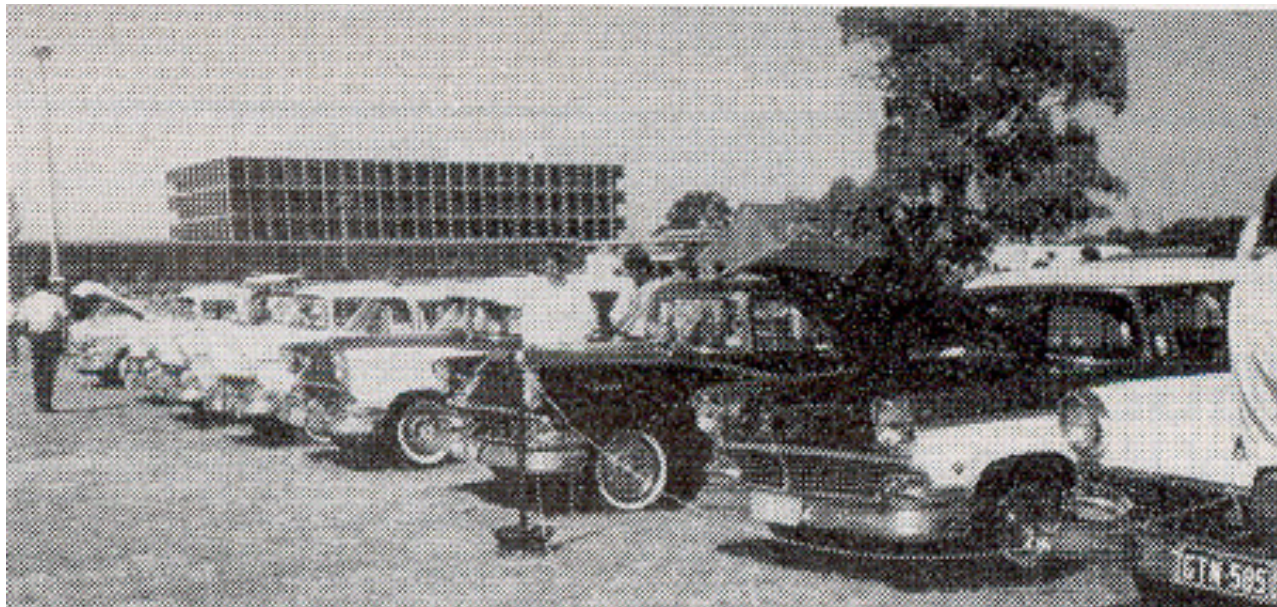
* * * * *

Ponder This!

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavour, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

CUSTOMLINE CLUB FROM THE PAST

Can you put Faces & Names to these Cars below?
Where was this display? Were you there?
If you have any details at all, then please let the Editor know.



1949-1959 CUSTOMLINE CAR CLUB OF VICTORIA

PO Box 221, Reservoir Vic. 3073. This Club has now a membership of approx 100 and is one of the most active car clubs in Melbourne. Family orientated and open to owners of Customline and Mainlines. A regular newsletter is sent to all members with current listings of parts available. Day and Weekend runs are organised throughout the year. All enquiries welcome.

The above advertisement was copied from Restored Cars No: 78, November 5 1988, Page 45.

vanity number plates

Here are a few more Vanity Number Plates for you to ponder over.
May be you have a few of your own, if you do then send them to the editor.

BYMYHNY	Buy my honey, a beekeeper
CROOZAH	On a Land Cruiser in Australia
FILLRUP	The owner is in the petroleum business
HE PAID	On a new Benz in LA driven by a 40+ blonde
IEATFIRE	On a fireman's pickup truck
ISUE4U	I sue for you! On a car outside a law firm
LEMON	On a late model Mustang convertible

HAVE YOU DRIVEN A FORD...LATELY?

Confucius Say:

Man who fight with wife all day get no piece at night.
Wife who put husband in dog house soon find him in cat house.



1951 F Ford

TOOL TIME

Some Definitions.

E-Z Out Bolt Extractor: A tool that snaps off in bolt holes and is ten times harder than any known drill bit.

Pry Bar: A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you need to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

16-02-2006 RJB