

# THE “WOBBLE KNOCKER”

The official and registered publication of the BMC-Leyland Car Club Inc in Victoria in 2014.  
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## BMC-Leyland Car Club Inc

A0061520N

### *Committee of Management*

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<b>VICE PRESIDENT.</b>	<b>(FOUNDER)</b>	Francis Borg.
<b>SECRETARY.</b>		Norma May.
<b>TREASURER.</b>		Cheryl Sawyer
<b>MEMBERSHIP.</b>		Sue Wilson.
<b>EVENTS &amp; SOCIAL Coordinator.</b>		Sue Wilson
<b>EDITOR.</b>		Gary Turner.
<b>WEBMASTER.</b>		Gary Turner
<b>VICROADS CPS PERSON.</b>		Sue Wilson and Francis Borg.
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS.</b>		Bryce Eishold, Patrick Farrell, Cheryl Sawyer, Rami El Sukkari.
<b>LIBRARIAN.</b>		Patrick Farrell.
<b>REGALIA.</b>		Gary Turner and Sue Wilson
<b>LIFE MEMBERS.</b>		Rae and Peter Luxmoore.

#### ***The following members are authorised by the club to sign VicRoads renewals.***

Gary Turner, Francis Borg, Norma May, Sue Wilson, Terry Sawyer, Vincent Stok.

#### ***The following members are authorized to sign Standard Declaration and Eligibility forms for the CPS.***

#### ***These members are club scrutineers and Safety Officers.***

Gary Turner, Francis Borg, Terry Sawyer and Vincent Stok.

(No new cars will be admitted to the scheme unless the VicRoads CPS person, Sue Wilson, grants prior permission.)

*Club Scrutineer's and Safety Officers are for signing off on the VicRoads Vehicle Eligibility and Standards Declaration Forms and for advice only. As of March 31, 2017, all cars must require a RWC including all those of pre 1949.*

## **Contact details:**

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### **Francis Borg & Norma May.**

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# PRESIDENTS REPORT

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020



Hi members.

Welcome to another pandemic edition of the “Wobble Knocker”.

Finally, the club has had its first covid-19 free run. Thanks to Richard Simpson and Sue they managed, after a few attempts, to be able to organize our first outing where we went for lunch at Flowerdale. Well done and thank you to the both of you. A run report is further in this newsletter.

This month is a double header newsletter mainly because of the lack of any information I have had, to do up a worthwhile newsletter in October. So, I decided to make one combined monthly newsletter before the festive season.

That is rather disappointing given that the club is growing slowly even during this pandemic. There is a lot of regular and frequent discussion on the club Facebook page and if anything, club activity on Facebook has increased during this period of COVID-19 restrictions.

When there are changes being made it is now more important that we communicate more now than ever with each other. Checking to see if your mates are doing ok and not getting down during this period of restrictions. Sue and I are always available anytime for a chat or if you want to vent as I am doing it all the time to Sue. Beyondblue 1300224636.

Letters to the editor, yours truly, do not need to be long and they do not need to be written in perfect English. But they do need to tell the club and members something you have seen or something exciting, happy or concerned about so that the more than 200 readers that get this newsletter can benefit from hearing what you think.

One big change I will let everyone know is that our domain name or website address has had to be changed due to some technical details we had with the old one. Our new web address is [www.bmcleylandcarclub.org](http://www.bmcleylandcarclub.org) Please let anyone you know of the change.

Membership stands now at 126 with 110 cars on the VicRoads Club Permit Scheme. During the past 6 or so months we have lost a few members as well as gained just as many. Our bank balance is healthy given that this is our sixth year of the club’s formation. I thank everyone for your ongoing support, it is greatly appreciated, believe me.

Beyondblue 1300224636

Many thanks,

Gary Turner.

Editor, BMC-Leyland Car Club Inc.

Club permit enquiries. 0421841939





# CLUB OUTINGS

Not sure where we stand on runs now apart from the one to Flowerdale which we have just held. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our annual Christmas Lunch and Show and Shine for December. Due to the short period of time to get things organized and the trophy place where we get them from being closed for four months, it was decided to cancel it for this year and hold a "Get out of COVID-19 Lunch and Show and Shine" early in 2021.

The silo tour weekend that was planned for Easter, the Cup Day and who knows will be still going ahead in 2021 over a long weekend, possibly over **Moomba Weekend the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2021**. The itinerary will stay the same but from living up here in paradise, Sue and I have found a few more sites to visit. I will keep you posted.

While we are all sitting around with not much on, I would like members to think about a run we would be interested to go on. The calendar is totally empty for next year and hoping that we can get out and about, now is the time to put down your name. We only need 9 members to organize something for next year and some members have already told Sue they are prepared to run an event so the number will be even less than 9.

## How to organise and put on a run.

Choose a month and a date that you can help

Once chosen, decide on a time and place to meet

Contact Sue and let her know so she can co-ordinate with the editor and committee.

Ask members to say if they are attending and make sure you have their phone number and give members yours. This will be possibly put in the newsletter anyway.

On the day get to the meeting point a few minutes early if you can.

Wait for members to arrive and leave at the designated time.

Try and travel in convoy. Do the right thing and if you can't see the member behind you, stop and wait for them in a safe place. Another reason why you need phone numbers.

Upon arriving check that everyone has arrived.

Take a note of who came, where you went, what happened, any story and any other details for doing a run report.





























Forward your notes to Gary so he can write up a run report for the magazine.



Now here is a tattoo for you, not mine but someone would do it I am sure!

## How to read your tyres.



	MAXIMUM SPEED		TYPE / VEHICLE TYPE
L	 75 mph	120 km/h	 Off-Road & Light Truck Tires
M	 81 mph	130 km/h	 Temporary Spare Tire
N	 87 mph	140km/h	 Temporary Spare Tires
Q	 99 mph	160 km/h	 Winter 4x4
R	 106 mph	170 km/h	 Heavy Duty Light Truck
S	 112 mph	180 km/h	 Family Sedans & Vans
T	 118 mph	190 km/h	 Family Sedans & Vans
U	 124 mph	200 km/h	 Sedans & Coupes
H	 130 mph	210 km/h	 Sport Sedans & Coupes
V	 149 mph	240 km/h	 Sports Cars
Z	 149+ mph	240+ km/h	 Sports Cars
W	 168 mph	270 km/h	 Exotic Sports Cars
Y	 186 mph	300 km/h	 Exotic Sports Cars
(Y)	 186+ mph	300+ km/h	 Exotic Sports Cars

- Manufacturer - Hudson Motors - 4 speed
- Club Registered- custom plates SX0030
- Colour - cream and burgundy
- black solid vinyl roof.
- Burgandy velour interior in excellent condition.
- Immaculate condition inside and out.
- Restored 15 years ago.
- Used as a wedding car
- always maintained and looked after

Contact Jack on 0417 035 982



\$28,500 · TATURA, VIC

Saw this car advertised and had to share it. Although it is not a BMC or Leyland vehicle it is such a beautiful old car that if I had the dollars it would be sitting in my garage.

Check it out if you can find it on Facebook Market Place.

# RUN REPORT

Lunch at Flowerdale Hotel.

18<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Members 35, Classic Cars 18.

After quite a bit of organizing, cancelling, and getting back on course, the run to Flowerdale for lunch finally went ahead thanks to our great member, Richard Simpson with help from Sue.

There were two groups on the road. One coming from Shepparton who left at 10am which comprised of Gary and Sue, Jaguar, Lloyd, and Glenda (New members) in a 1960 MG Midgette and we picked up Ross and Margo Nankivell in their modern just before Nagambie.

The other group who was organized by Richard, had the rendezvous at Stiggants Reserve in Warrandyte. They departed at 9:45 and headed off to Lady Stonehaven Lookout at Kinglake where a brief morning tea was had. Great views and company.

Then at around 11:15am they all left for their 2-hour booking at 12noon at the Flowerdale Hotel where both groups would meet.

As a pure fluke, both groups arrived at the same time which I thought was a miracle.

In the second group was: Richard and Carole Simpson - Moke, Kel and Jo Hawkesworth - Morris Minor, Alan and Yvonne Bennett - Triumph Stag, Rob and Anne Quinn - Morris Minor Ute, Rick and Kay Smith - MGB, Frank Borg and Norma May - MG Midgette, Ron and Pat Sinclair - Morris Major, Clyde and Diane Wilson - Wolesley, Richard Sarah Rigby - MG, Stephen and Pam Garratt - Austin Healey Sprite, Paul Buck and partner - Mini, Terry and Peter Nodzio - Mini, Clint and Rebecca Alfred - MGB, Bob and Val Strode - MGBGT and Peter Bernardi - MGB.

After the usual meet and greet outside we all went into the hotel for lunch. Sue gave the owners all our details as required by the covid-19 requirements and everyone got a drink then ordered their meals.

Shortly after the meals were demolished Gary stood up and gave a short speech and had a brief meeting to keep members up to date with what has been happening in the club and the treasurers report. Details of which are further in the newsletter.

Then after another chit chat and so on it was time to leave, say our goodbyes and look forward to our next get together and run.

Thanks to all who attended the run. It was great to catch up and see familiar faces.

Looking forward to when we can do it all again soon.



Photos with thanks, Glenda.



**BMC – Leyland Car Club Inc**  
**Meeting at Flowerdale Hotel**  
**18 November 2020**

Members in attendance 38.

Gary Turner opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and welcomed new members from Shepparton, Lloyd and Glenda who have a 1960 MG Magnette. Apologies were Cheryl and Terry Sawyer, Patrick and Sandra Farrell and best wishes to our mate, Graeme Williamson who is reported to be a bit under the weather.

Membership stands at 126 and cars on the CPS 110. Facebook members 2,300.

Treasurers Report as of November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Balance as of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 \$9972.58

Membership deposits \$1665.00

Outgoings \$638.17

(Embroidery/Regalia, Printing supplies, Domaine name change, Raffle Prizes)

Current balance as of 16/11/2020 \$11039.11

A great effort for a club that has only been around for 6 years and have paid out quite a sum on sponsored runs and so on. More to come.

General business.

Website has had a change of domain name from bmcleylandcc.org to bmcleylandcarclub.org. This was bought about by our original domain name taking people to our old website which no longer work's and we could not recover the name. It was decided to create a new domain name for our new website as which Gary explained needs to be updated and will work on it soon.

Newsletter.

Gary spoke about the need for more members to contribute to the magazine by providing some stories to make the newsletter a little more entertaining. As it is a car club magazine some stories on your restoration projects or some information that would be informative to them.

Thanks to:

Terry Sawyer, Vincent Stok and all the CPS signatories who have done a great job in signing off on the renewals. Also, to Sue for the record keeping. She still knows all the cars in the club including some Rego numbers. That is why I could never tell a porky as she will remember, ever 20 years ago.

More next page...

Raffle.

Sue also was busy buying up items to make up two large hampers for the day's door prize. The winners were Clint Alfred and Margo Nankivell.

Library Books.

Gary explained that we have quite a number of books that have been donated to the club for the library but no one seems to be all that interested in borrowing them due to most of the information can be easily accessed on the internet these days. So, it was decided we would pass them on to members for the cost of a gold coin. Some took the offer up and the books will be bought on future runs.

Regalia:

The club still has a range of regalia in stock so now is the time to order some clothing. There maybe a slight delay in ordering and receiving due to the embroiderer being closed during covid-19 but if you are quick you will receive it before Christmas.

Gary then thanked everyone for attending the run today, thanked Richard Simpson for another fantastic run he has organised and closed the meeting.

As a footnote I do want to thank Carole Simpson even though she said Richard did all the work, Thank you.



More news is the fact that Morris Commercial is producing a new "JE" Van. Very much like the old style of van in the 1950's only this new version is an **electric** vehicle and will sell for around the \$55,000 for the base model.

# Congratulations!

On a happy note we have a new member although she does not know it yet.



Anna Brayley and Aaron have a little girl born a few weeks ago named Grace.



Happy birthday must go to Robert Quinn who turned the big 70 recently.

And to blow my own trumpet, I turned 66 on the 14<sup>th</sup> which makes me eligible for the “old age” pension.

I am now an old fart and join in the group of a lot of other old farts.

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Recently Sue and I helped organise a show and shine on behalf of the community we live in. Lifestyle Community Shepparton in conjunction with Ken Muston MG was holding a promotion of the new MG which is on the market.

Management got in touch with Sue and me to ask us to organise a show and shine with some of the homeowner's classic cars which reside in our community.

Did not have to ask us twice so we went about inviting as many as we could find as we knew there was quite several cars here. Ken Muston MG had several new MG's on display, and all were available to take on a test run which many took the offer up.

We managed to get 14 homeowners' cars to show off and they were all magnificent, well looked after and a credit to the owners. Lifestyle management had organise a free Sausage sizzle which was put on by Shepparton Rotary and we had Joel's Coffee Van on site to provide everyone a free coffee.

It turned out to be a fantastic day for all and we have been asked to do another one next year.



Gary and Sue in front of their MGB with representatives from Ken Muston MG Shepparton. Plus, some of the many stunning Lifestyle Homeowners vehicles.



Sue and I have also started up a homeowner's coffee run which we put on every second Thursday. It is an opportunity to take our classic cars out on a small run, have a coffee, lunch or picnic and meet others in our community. The first one was a bit of a flop with just one other couple joining us, Lloyd, and Glenda in their MG Midgette. A couple of weeks later we held another, and we went to the small town of Dookie where we had a pleasant picnic under a beautiful tree in a park. This time we had 7 cars pictured below.



# NEWS

Shepperton's Motor Museum is currently undergoing a huge \$5.2 million renovation which hopefully will be open when we all come up here for the Silo run in March next year. Below is a picture of the progress as of a couple of weeks ago. I will update everyone as it goes along but will be well worth the visit for sure.

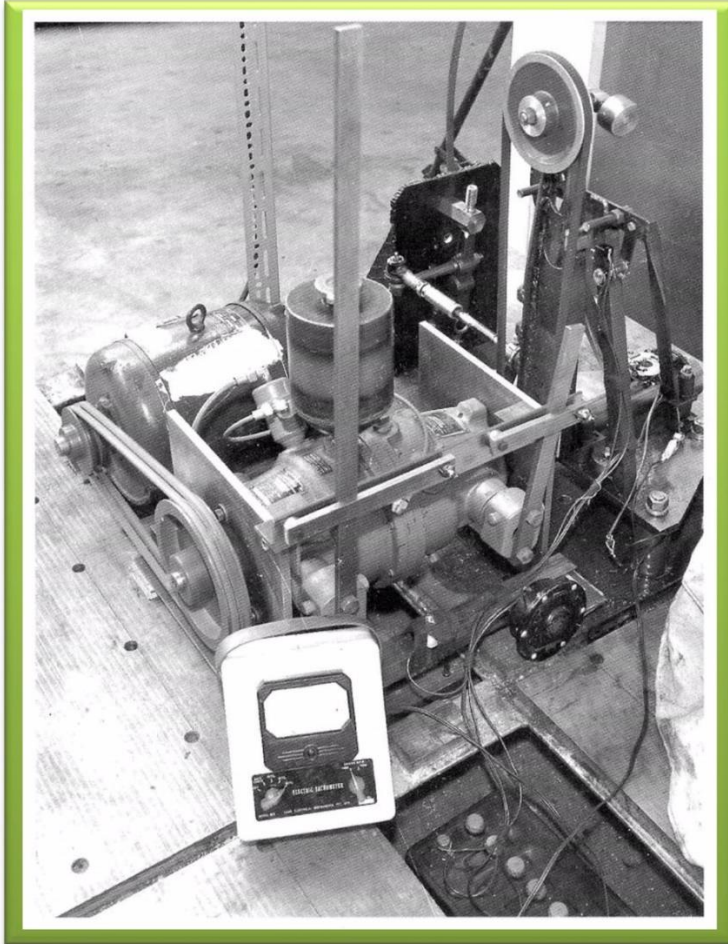
Museum of Vehicle Evolution is currently under construction. Local trades are all busy working away on bringing this amazing facility to the Goulburn Valley. When completed MOVE will be 9000 square metres!



Bryce Eishold sent this photo in of his Morris Minor and the house he recently purchased. I must say they do look like a perfect match. Well done Bryce, happy memories ahead.



**What the hell is “The Wobble Knocker” that this magazine is named after?  
For the benefit of our new members all the details are below.**



**“The Wobble Knocker”**

A machine invented to test the fatigue in steering levers and other fatigue and weight bearing components in vehicles. Used in the testing of mainly BMC Leyland vehicles in Australia in the 60's it is still being used 40 years later.

A durability driver rang around 8pm one night. He was not best pleased. A steering arm on a prototype car had failed—alongside a deep railway cutting near Thirlmere.

Next morning, having retrieved the car, we found that the other three steering levers (there were two prototypes) were cracked—it was six months to production. Perversely, finding all three cracked was good—there was no doubt that we had to do something. The Experimental Department was only nine months old and we were operating in a temporary area. We urgently needed a fatigue testing machine.

Reg Fulford, from his experience with fatigue testing at Holden decided on the machine concept and the ingenious Clay Turner designed and built the “wobble-knocker” within a week.

Clay subsequently built machines to test a wide range of component and systems. An example was his trailer dynamometer which employed an aeroplane propeller that had to be guarded so it would not ingest small animals beside the road—a story in itself.

The wobble-knocker comprised a vertical oscillating arm actuated by a rotating out-of-balance mass at the top and driven through a variable speed drive unit, a belt and pulleys. A link to the steering arm through a standard steering ball joint and tie rod loaded the part correctly. Deflection (and hence load) was measured by eye using the pointer on the ball joint and a steel rule—crude perhaps but we got useable results.

The road failure was reproduced—an essential first step in fatigue testing—and the standard part's life established—around 900,000 cycles. Three different “stronger” materials were evaluated, two having much shorter lives than the standard part while the third had about the same life. So, after months of effort we were back where we started. Time was running out and tests were done on arms with the diameter  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch larger. These ran for over five million cycles without failure. There was a scramble and the change was introduced before first production—just in time—and the Experimental Department had proved its first fatigue testing machine. It was subsequently redesigned to run much faster with proper instrumentation. In this form it was still being used 40 years later.

**I WANT YOU**



I want you to please send me some stories of a recent restoration or anything you would think others would be interested in. Send to [bmcleylandcc@iinet.net.au](mailto:bmcleylandcc@iinet.net.au)

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