



# QUEENSLAND HISTORIC MOTORING COUNCIL INC.

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## **NEWSLETTER No 29**

**JUNE 2026**

### **NMHD Reports**

#### **NATIONAL MOTORING HERITAGE DAY REPORT 16 MAY 2026 – Sharon Auld**

National Motoring Heritage Day is held on the third Sunday of May every year with the aim of promoting and displaying to the community and Government “the strength of the Australian historic motoring movement”. Historic Vehicle Clubs and members are encouraged to use their vehicles on this day and since its inception the event has become a recognised event on Historic Vehicle Clubs calendar of events.

Many motoring clubs throughout the state held events over the course of the weekend. The Q.H.M.C. this year marked the occasion with a Display Day for vehicles at the Veteran Car Club grounds at Carindale. Following a week of wet weather, the morning dawned fine with vehicles starting to roll in from 6.00a.m.

An interesting line-up of 40 vehicles attended dating from 1923 including tourers, Utes, convertibles, sedans, and motorcycles. Early V8 Ford, Studebaker, Triumph, Vauxhall, Austin Sprite, Morris Minor, Thunderbird, Ford Zodiac, Humber were some of the makes represented. And an immaculately restored 1970 Ford Fairlane Ambulance. Queensland Ambulance Heritage and History has a collection of 17 ambulance vehicles including two motorbikes. The displayed Ford Fairlane was built on a long-wheelbase Fairlane chassis powered by a V8 engine and was originally stationed at Chinchilla. The Fairlane was in regular use until 1983 and has been faithfully restored with stretcher, cabinetry and medical equipment of the era.

One of the first vehicles to grab my attention was the 23/60 Vauxhall Tourer owned by Barry Morris. Barry has owned the aluminium-bodied tourer since he was 13 years of age when he was given the ‘bones’ of the vehicle by his father. Barry started the restoration at that early age. At the time the Vauxhall had a chassis, a diff, a front axle, a short engine, a gearbox and 3 wheels. Over the years Barry gradually acquired body parts and doors, a tub and constructed a new timber frame. Restoration also included building new hood irons and making a new hood. Twenty-five years ago the tourer was back on the road and Barry continues to drive the Vauxhall with obvious relish, travelling to rallies as far away as Armidale. The night before the event Barry had driven the Vauxhall across town with the hood down to attend a Meeting at the Carindale Club rooms. When the forecasted showers arrived a quick dash to the carpark was in order to put the hood up for the drive home. Without side-curtains! Hearing Barry describe his personal history with the car was a delight and we will hopefully see Barry and the 23/60 on future Q.H.M.C. events.

The Robert Shannon Foundation stand was on the grounds along with Bayside member Lachlan Jones’ Toyota Corolla on display. Lachlan was awarded a Robert Shannon Foundation Grant in 2024.

Bendigo Bank volunteers throughout the morning manned the B.B.Q. for a sausage sizzle and Q.H.M.C. provided the sausages and drinks.

President Carle at 10.00a.m. officially welcomed and thanked all for attending. Drawing of the Raffle followed with a total of 13 prizes generously donated by I.G.A. Jones and Co., Penrite Oils, Brisbane Batteries and John Que. The proceeds of this year's raffle will be donated to the Robert Shannpn Foundation and Wynnum Community Place and Director Lauren gave an informative speech about the services the group provide to the local community.

Congratulations to Q.H.M.C. for hosting the event and a huge thank-you to the volunteers from member Clubs who manned displays and gates, supervised parking and helped with the clean-up. Most of all, a BIG THANK YOU to all who travelled to Carindale to help celebrate the day.

## **ROMA DISTRICT REPORTS**

**Charleville Chapter:** Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Display of cars and bikes and Grande Parade participation at the Charleville Show. With less than 20 members in Charleville, it was decided that this was the best way to do their National Motoring Heritage Day event. We have a new Chapter Coordinator in Charleville, and this was his first National Motoring Heritage Day.

### **Feedback:**

- from the Charleville Show President – Extract from email - *“ I wanted to extend my sincerest thanks to everyone at the Roma Historical Motor Club for your invaluable support of this year's Charleville Show, particularly your participation in the show's Grand Parade. I can't thank you enough and we have had incredible feedback from the community saying this was one of the best shows in many years and the Grand Parade, one of the biggest in years, took many people back to the halcyon days of the 60s and 70s!!! As the new President of the Charleville and South West Queensland Show Society, I am truly appreciative of your wonderful support.”*
- From the Charleville Chapter Coordinator – “I was pretty happy with the attendance for the Grand Parade, and we were well attended by the public”

**Injune Chapter** - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Display at Injune Memorial Hall – cars, bikes, stationary engines (including mini stationary engines. They also gave a not for profit the opportunity to do a sausage sizzle. We also have a new Chapter Coordinator in Injune, and this was his first National Motoring Heritage Day as well.

**St George Chapter** – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – St George members went on a social run to celebrate the day.

**Roma** – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May - In Roma we sourced a new location for our display, having trialled various places in previous years. Our new spot is very visible to passing traffic and we also did a lot of promotion. We had a steady stream of visitors throughout the morning and a lot of interaction between members and the public. We invited a coffee van, a local not for profit to do cold drinks and Repco and Supercheap Auto to do a stall. Repco took us up on this.

### **Feedback**

From Repco – Roma Trade Team Leader – *“Thank you for the invite. That's fantastic news. It's wonderful to see such a strong community spirit and so many people coming together. Thank you again!”*

From the not-for-profit, Roma Historical Precincts – *“It was a great morning”*

From members – great display, well visible to the public, conversations about the vehicles with the public