



Orange District Antique Motor Club Inc.

Restoration Rambler

November 2025



Tony & Christine Steele 190E Mercedes Benz

Orange District Antique Motor Club Inc.

Postal address P.O. BOX 664, ORANGE N.S.W. 2800

ORANGE DISTRICT ANTIQUE MOTOR CLUB INC

Officer Bearers 2025

PATRON	Richard Bloomfield	0427201824
PRESIDENT	*Peter Amos	0447401928
VICE PRESIDENT	Chris Bromley	0428659224
SECRETARY	Carol Ryan	0448682211
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Susan Toy	0408414848
TREASURER	*Euan Coutts	63651274
ASSISTANT TREASURER	David Toy	0408226511
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Rosemarie Amos	0412699905
PUBLICITY OFFICER/ SOCIAL SECRETARY	Kevin Penson	0427645202
PROPERTY OFFICER/LIBRARIAN	Richard Bloomfield	0427201824
PUBLIC OFFICER	Bill Nielsen	0468589270
EVENTS COMMITTEE	Nigel Coutts	63651301
	Chris Bromley	0428659224
	Richard Bloomfield	0427201824
	Susan Toy	0408226511
	Wilga Coutts	63651274
REGISTRATION OFFICER	Kevin Ryan	0448 682211
REGISTRATION ASSISTANT	Steve Halls	63629851
SCRUTINEERS	Laurie Dwyer	0417620848
	Ray Dwyer	0438663510
BUSH COUNCIL DELEGATE	Bob McNeil	63620239 0447117079
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	Chris Bromley Don Eisenhuth Richard Bloomfield	0428659224 0447745150 0427201824
WEBSITE	odamc.org.au	
WEBSITE CO- ORDINATOR	Andrew McDougall	63622942

*Key holders

Meetings are held in the Lucknow school building, Lucknow

3rd Monday of each month commencing at 7.30pm. All visitors are welcome.

Presidents Report

Dear Members,

Many thanks to Bob McNeil for his involvement in the club as our registrar and scrutineer for several years. Bob has retired due to health issues and at our October meeting Kevin Ryan was elected to the position of registrar.

Please refer to the letter that is included in this magazine regarding the inspections of vehicles that have been manufactured since 1960. The club will require you to obtain a pink slip for these vehicles before rego day. Please note, that the Registration Day will be held at Euan & Wilga Coutts property, if you can not attend, other arrangements can be made. Please contact Kevin Ryan if this the case.

Hope to see you on our next run to the Telegraph Hotel at Molong. Meet at Cook Park at 10am.

Remember our next meeting is the AGM and if you can assist with the running of our club don't be afraid to volunteer.

I can't believe how quickly this year has gone – only 8 weeks till Christmas

Happy motoring,

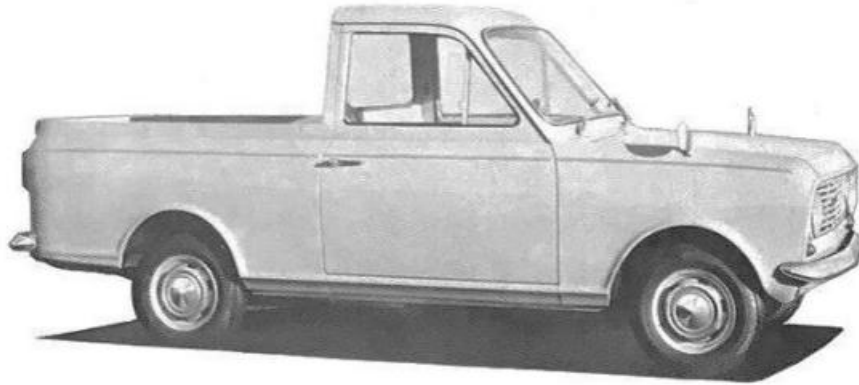
Peter



What a great utility vehicle! This made the front page of the Vauxhall News this month. So I thought I would share.

With the success of the CA pick-up, the idea of a small, nimble pick-up truck based on the HA Bedford panel van was thought to be another class winner by Walker Bodies of Watford. Made in very small numbers (believed to be around 60 in total) only a handful of these survive today: they were originally sold to companies and private buyers directly through Vauxhall/Bedford dealerships. They could carry 6-8 cwt. The conversion was a high quality job that looked like a factory original design. Very few have survived but those which have certainly cause a stir wherever one might pop up at a local show. Here is the story of Walkers Motor Builders.

BEDFORD + WALKER



H.A. PICK-UP

Handsome is as handsome does – and there is no doubt the H.A. Pick-up gets a pretty high rating, thanks to it's car comfort, brisk performance, easy handling and – with it's low floor line – exceptionally easy loading. It's the ideal lightweight runabout for the carriage of passengers and goods.

But the H.A. Pick-up is no chicken! Strength and durability are the hallmarks of this Bedford-Walker design – a 1256 c.c. engine, all steel construction (with double-skin sides and tailboard) and toughened safety glass throughout. For everyday use, everywhere, get hold of a Bedford-Walker H.A. Pick-up, one of the most economical, versatile and highly efficient vehicles available today.



Registration Day

Membership fees of \$50 are due by 31st December for the year 2026.

You can pay direct to the Clubs Bank Account details :

Newcastle Permanent BSB: 650 00 Account Number : 00452539 Name : ODAMC.

You can also pay at the next meeting 17th November or you can pay at the Rego Day 30th November.
Thank You,

Euan Coutts Treasurer.

ORANGE DISTRICT ANTIQUE MOTOR CLUBS INC.

AGENDA / MINUTES FOR MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: 20th October 2025

TIME: 7.35pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: As per the attendance book

APOLOGIES: Des & Sally Green, Bernie Schell, David & Susan Toy, Nigel Coutts, George Tait, Chris Bromley

VISITORS

President opened the meeting and welcomed all members and visitors.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Accepted as printed in magazine

Moved; Richard Bloomfield Seconded: Wilga Coutts Carried

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

Orange City Council Community Guide update.

CHMC Annual Affiliation Notice 2026. Due 31st December. Complete after AGM with current office bearers.

Central West Car Club Annual Charity Car Show Parkes WAS 18th Oct. We were away and missed the email going out to members.

Bob McNeil letter of resignation from position of Registrar

Laurie Dwyer letter of resignation from club.

Thank You from Little Wings

Tax Department advises that we are definitely liable to pay tax.

Insurance Company has advised that they are having trouble with renewal certificates but have issued a Certificate of Currency until things are sorted.

MAGAZINES FROM CLUBS

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

Orange City Council Community Guide update information.

Moved: Carol Ryan Seconded: Bill Nielsen Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

Best Wishes to go to Ray Dwyer via Kevin Penson

TREASURERS REPORT: Euan presented the current financial report:

Accounts to Pay

Moved: Euan Coutts Seconded: Bryn Miller Carried

EVENTS REPORT:

20-21st Sept Presidents Run to Junee. 11 members attended. Great weekend was had by all including great Chinese meal at Red Cow Pub, visit to train museum and chocolate factory and back to Cowra for lunch at the Rose Garden Café.

28th Sept Andrew Sharpe Memorial Run. 12 attended and after a nice run on a great day lunch followed at Newbridge Pub.

28th Sept Memorial Service for Nick Shield was held at his and Gregs Manildra Property. His ashes were spread over their garden.

2nd Oct BBQ at Magills. Great social event. Great BBQ with salads and desserts.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

25th October Carcoar Show

1-2nd November Millthorpe Garden Ramble

6th November Run to Molong via Euchareena Lunch Molong. Meet Cook Park

10.00am

8th November Neville Show

17th November Meeting/ AGM

30th November Rego Day

4th December Christmas Party Wentworth Golf Club. Numbers next meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Nomination forms are available for office bearing positions for the year 2026. AGM 17th November 2025.

In view of Bob McNeills resignation from the position of Club Registrar Kevin Ryan was voted in as new Registrar. Moved: Euan Coutts Seconded: Richard Bloomfield

In taking on this roll Kevin suggested that in view of the later model cars that are now eligible for Historic Vehicle Registration that all cars manufactured after 1960 should obtain a pink slip. Moved: Kevin Ryan Seconded: Euan Coutts

Euan Coutts also moved that a new trolley jack should be purchased before Rego day as one of the existing jacks is faulty. Seconded: Kevin Ryan

Use of Lucknow Fire Shed for rego day is no longer available. Rego day will now be held at the residence of Euan and Wilga Coutts at 2 Kennett Place Clifton Grove Orange. 30th November Commencing at 8.30am. Club insurance covers those attending.

Supper January: Euan & Wilga Coutts

MEETING CLOSED: 8.30

ODAMC Events 2025

Club events are generally organised on the 1st Thursday and the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Other events of interest are listed that members may wish to attend using your log books.

Date	Event	Contact/Organiser
Sat - Sun Nov 1 st & 2 nd	Millthorpe Garden Ramble – this weekend. Make your way out	
Thur 6 th Nov	Mid week Run to Telegraph Hotel in Molong for 12 noon lunch. Meet at Cook Park 10am	Peter Amos 0447401928
Sat 8 th Nov	Neville Show	
Mon 17 th Nov	ODAMC AGM Lucknow 7.30	
Sun 30 th Nov	Registration Day at Lucknow	NB Only 1 Rego Day this year
Thurs 4 th Dec	Christmas Party – Wentworth Golf Club	An indication of numbers at the Nov. meeting please

Please note there will be NO meeting in December

Thurs 1 st Jan	Drinks and nibbles at the Toys from 4pm	
Thurs 8 th Jan	5pm Twilight run to Lake Canobolas for BBQ	

OUT & ABOUT IN MILLTHORPE

RAMBLE HEADQUARTERS
Golden Memories Museum
37 Park St, Millthorpe
Open Sat & Sun - 9am to 4pm

FOOD AVAILABLE CWA Hall
Village Cafes / Eateries
Gardens as indicated

ART GALLERY School of Arts
Golden Memories Museum
Open Sat & Sun

AROUND THE GARDENS

Stalls - in gardens as indicated
Toilets - Gardens as indicated,
Accessible toilets at Oval,
Museum and Station
No Pets Please

WORKSHOPS
Garden 1 - Sat 10.30am and 2pm
Dahlia Growing - Rob Slarke, Central West
Dahlia Society.

SPECIAL EVENTS
Garden 8 – Sat 12:30pm
Cantar Choir (Orange)
School of Arts
Art display and demonstrations, children's table
Golden Memories Museum
Rose Display

SPOTTO FOR KIDS
Spot all sorts of items in each garden. Available at
garden gates

millthorpegardenramble.com.au
Follow us  

MILLTHORPE

GARDEN RAMBLE

1-2 NOVEMBER 2025



10 GARDENS
\$25 (or \$5 each) Children free, Valid all weekend
OPEN 10am - 4pm

TICKETS
Humanitix.com | QR Code | HQ | All Gardens

Visit the website for
more information
millthorpegardenramble.com.au
Follow us  



George Tait's Cars

I have recently talked to George about the cars he has owned in his lifetime. He is a self-proclaimed car fanatic and has a wonderful memory of the cars he has owned. I have tried to keep them in chronological order, but may slip up here and there with makes and models, but I have tried to get the colour correct!

In 1945 George had started working as a Telegram boy in Parkes. He has a memory of riding it down the main street the day the war ended, with all the business people out the front of their shops celebrating and cheering.

George was moved to Manildra to start up a town mail delivery run in 1946. While he was there, he bought his first car a Sky Blue 4 door Baby Austin from Bob Gosper. Bob's then girlfriend refused to go out with him in such a small car, so George purchased it for £60. The local Policeman asked him if he had a licence to drive the Austin while he was parked in the street showing it off to the other young lads in town. The answer was 'NO', so George was sternly instructed to report to the station to get one.

George returned to the Post Office in Parkes where he purchased his second car, a Dodge Fast Four, it was a convertible and was cream in colour. He took his mother to Sydney in that car. He worked in a lot of Post Offices in the western region but did spend 12 months in Sydney learning to be a Morse Code Operator for the PMG. During this time he didn't own a car.

At 21 he bought a Morris 840 it was grey. He was back in Parkes and had a very busy job entering and receiving telegrams. His future wife Pat also had a job in the Telegram department, and they worked side by side. It was so busy they did not have time to speak to each other during the day, so George had to ring her up after work to ask her out. Pat had come to Parkes to convalesce after being in a bad car accident where she broke her pelvis. She worked at the PO entering telegrams, I am assuming she was able to be seated most of the day to help with her recuperation.

Anyway....back to the cars. George and Pat married and they sold the Morris to go on their honeymoon to Coolangatta. They flew there in a DC 3, had a wonderful time but came home broke!

They then bought the cheapest car they could find - a 1936 Ford side valve sedan (green) which burnt too much oil. Despite this they hired a caravan and set out on their next holiday. The fumes coming from the car pulling the van was making Pat sick, but they soon discovered it wasn't the fumes it was morning sickness, so they came home.

They lived in Croydon in a flat with no car, during this time Greg was born. The next vehicle was a bright red sports Singer 9 sports car, George admits it wasn't a very practical car for a baby. One evening they went to the pictures in Granville, they came out to find that the car had been stolen. It was found a week later in Wallerawang with no fuel, so George bought some fuel and went and got it. George had a prang in it later while seeing how it cornered. It was fixed and sold much to Pat's relief I suspect.

Pat was compensated for the accident with £1,500 which helped with a deposit for a house. Things started to look up but they were in debt with a baby with no furniture and no car. George had a change of career and left the GPO to become a real estate agent with Willmore & Randall in Castlereagh St.

Back to the cars.....the next car was a Renault CV4 (green), this was in 1958 when John was born, even though this car was too small with 2 children George has still got this car. He then bought a FJ Holden that was worn out, but stuck with the Holdens when he bought his first new car a Green FE.

As the land developing business became more successful the size of the cars and the family got bigger. The tenth car George owned was a 1957 Chev, 6 cylinder Automatic hydro drive with big wings. Peter was born and one day they went on a picnic with everyone travelling in the front seat! It was a grey colour. Looking to improve performance George bought another Chev 2 years later which had the 1st V8 engine, with smaller wings and its colour was “Nipple Pink”! Now I also have an imported Pontiac written down – but no detail, I will have to check on this one.

Next he imported a brand new Buick Riviera from America and had it converted to righthand drive. It was a beautiful exotic car in a bronze colour. No. 12 was also imported but this time from the UK – a Jaquar XJ6 in British Racing green, radial tyres another beautiful car but hopeless in the bush, breaking down regularly, with the muffler falling off, over heating and other trouble. The worst car George ever owned.

Somewhere in the mix Pat had a Fiat 124 to run the kids to school. They were living at Wahroonga and George was travelling to the South Coast once a week as well as attending to business in Penrith regularly and looking after a 7,000 acre property north of Dubbo and spending a lot of time on the road.

So after the imported era we move onto the Mercedes Benz era – George loves his Merc’s. The first Mercedes Benz was a gold SEC and is the best car he has ever owned. It was perfect! Unfortunately he hit a kangaroo doing 120ks in the Piliga scrub and smashed the front of it. These were the days before mobile phones and George and his manager had to wait for hours hoping that a message had got through to Pat to arrange a pick up. It was fixed and lived on.

He then bought the 1st SEL Mercedes Benz which was fawn and Pat had a bright red Renault 2 door soft top, which was bought at the Royal Easter Show. They had moved to Blakehurst to a house with a steep drive. The clutch was burnt out in 6 months! They ended up moving back to Wahroonga.

George also bought Pat a purple V8 Monaro which was very rare, and he had to pull a few strings to get it. She hated that car!

The 3rd Merc was a dark blue SEL sedan. George and his partner bought their wives a Mercedes sports car each. Pat had a yellow and Joan a blue. Soon after this the Taites moved to Mandurama in 1979 and the sports car had to be sold. Pat had a red Holden Station Wagon which coped with the country roads well.

I have on my list an E-Class Mercedes which was Navy....and no other detail! In 2006 Pat & George did the loop around Australia in a Toyota Landcruiser. Next we have the 2nd worst car George has ever owned and that would be the white Jeep. We will leave that there. The current modern car is a Lexus – which is good car.

I have mentioned the Studebaker in the last issue and George also has a 1956 Blue Ponton Merc. This was the first Mercedes manufactured after WW2 and came from Boorowa. The owner was a West Wyalong Farmer who moved to Melbourne and his granddaughter inherited the car and decided to sell it when she got too old to drive. So it has only been owned by 2 families.

Thankyou George, for telling me your car story, you have an amazing memory and apologies if I have some in the wrong order.

Rosemarie Amos

October – Events

We had a lovely day at Magills on Thursday 2nd October. 16 members enjoyed a BBQ lunch followed by some sumptuous desserts. As the day turned out be wintry, we ventured inside to the warmth of house instead of looking at cars. Thank you for your hospitality, Anne & Owen.



Carcoar Show

The Carcoar show turned out to be a great day as always, with members Des & Sally Green being involved with running of the day and Richard Bloomfield bringing two very old Hargan saws to display. We were joined by other car clubs around the ring and caught up with a lot of locals.



Amos's Hupmobile & Coutts Vauxhall



Tony Steele Mercedes Benz



Two early Land Rovers were popular with children picnicking in the back.



The Cortina's had a National Rally in Bathurst earlier in the month and has a terrific display of over 170 cars parked in Russell St. It is a pity we can't do the same in Orange.



Orange District Antique Motor Club Inc.
PO Box 664 Orange N.S.W 2800

22nd October 2025

Historical Vehicle Registration and Rego Day

Hi Members

Rego Day is set down for the 30th November and will take place at Euan & Wilga Coutts residence at 2 Kennett Place Clifton Grove Orange. Commencing at 8.30am

After Monday nights monthly club meeting on 20/10/25 and following the resignation of our long-standing car club registrar Bob McNeill I have been voted in as the new Registrar. I'd like to thank Bob for his many years of dedicated service to the club.

It was proposed and accepted at this meeting that all vehicles manufactured after 1960 will now be required to obtain a pink slip to qualify for Historic Vehicle registration and be signed off by the ODAMC registrar.

If you have a vehicle manufactured after 1960 you will need to have a pink slip this year to complete your rego.

On rego day please also bring your insurance details. Annual Club fees of \$50 can also be paid on the day.

This change is being implemented due to the complexities and specifications of modern day cars which now qualify for Historic Registration. It is impossible for scrutineers and the registrar to be across all these.

A new form Member Historic Registration Declaration will also be introduced which will need to be completed and signed by the vehicle owner. Signing this form is to confirm the owner has taken responsibility and confirmed eligibility of their vehicle for the Historic Vehicle Scheme and that it has not been altered in any way and the owner is a financial member of ODAMC. The details of the scheme can be found on the Service NSW website:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/driving-boating-and-transport/vehicle-registration/how-to-register/historic-vehicles-registration/period-options-accessories-and-safety-items>

If for any reason you are unable to attend on rego day a mutually convenient time can be arranged by contacting me on the number below.

If members have any enquires about these arrangements please give me a call .

Regards
Kevin Ryan
Mobile: 0448682211.