

# Flat Four'm

June 2017

## Presidents Report

Hi guys

I can't believe it is June already. Seriously, where has this year gone? I know I have been busy, not like I have been sitting on my butt – but, let's see: - February was my birthday and I went to Darwin, March I spent a weekend down at Shell Harbour for our anniversary and we had the club Berrima run, April I went to Harry's Pie run and then it was Easter and I was travelling to the Barossa and back via the Ocean Road, by the way, it was an amazing trip and the old kombi didn't let me down. Rochelle and Dan announced their engagement and moved into their new home, which has taken up a couple of weekends since as they have a bit of work to do getting the outside sorted out; May we had a pre booked event which meant we missed the Berry Blast from the past, we never miss that one, and then Mother's Day and Max's birthday, oh and I have just about finished the back pergola – really! And here we are it is June and the Kangaroo Valley long weekend is next weekend – CRAZY!

Don't forget Kev's Wollongong run on the 25th I am looking forward to catching up with everyone.

I have been approached by the organiser of the Grange Classic Garage to be the feature club on Saturday 5th August. The meet is in Smeaton Grange and the aim is to host a feature club each month, giving the club an opportunity to exhibit and sign up new potential members. As the Feature club we are offered (up to) 10 reserved prime spots at the meet, and inclusion of our club logo in the events feature club advertising. Just like attending our meets, attending as a feature club is completely free I will let you know the details as they come but please keep the date in mind. Along the same lines, I have been in contact with the organiser of the Kiama Markets to host a car meet / show on the Saturday November 25th market day, again I am still finalising details. Having said that, The Romans Hot Rod club is hosting the event on Saturday 10th September so that would be good for us to attend and get an idea of what is expected from us.

So it appears the rest of the year will be just as busy as the first half. Yay!

Till next time.... Happy cruising....Murray

PS I have sold the Hot Rod! It's gone and now I have room for that Mustang I have had my eye on ;)

## Barb's Bits

Well haven't the days been gorgeous? I hope you've been enjoying the beautiful hues of autumn as much as I have. However winter is upon us and so too is Kangaroo Valley, if today (Monday) is anything to go by, I think I will be packing my long johns!! It seems so long ago that we had our last meeting and quite a bit has happened since then, where do I start?

Let's see, Pod and Mandy welcomed their newest grandchild into the world, a little boy named Aiden, (I hope I spelled that right Pod) congratulations to all the family from all of us. 😊

Amy France (little Amy?) turned 18!! Still can't believe it but there was a photo on facebook of her at the Opera House bar celebrating with family and friends and we all know, if it's on facebook, it must be true....oh let the shenanigans begin!! 🎉🍷

Huge congratulations to Dan and Rochelle who got engaged on Good Friday, from what I hear it was a very romantic proposal and Dan did an awesome job of picking out the perfect ring, 💍 it's just stunning and Rochelle hasn't come down from 'Cloud 9' yet as not only did she get engaged to the man of her dreams but they (finally) moved into the house of their dreams as well. 🏠

I hope all the mummas out there had a lovely Mother's Day as did I, isn't it nice to have that one day to reflect on just what our mothers' do for us, unconditionally and with lots of love??

Gee these birthdays come around way too often but here is a very happy belated May birthday to Amy France - 5th May Brett Poole - 11th May Malcolm Moore - 14th May Max Fleming-Morris - 23rd May - 3 yrs. old Warren Easton - 25th May - 'The Big 40' A very happy birthday to those celebrating their birthdays in June Kevin Critcher - 4th June - The Chief is 40 Mandy Webster - 12th June Phil Svoronos - 15th June - Can't be 45

Maddi Critcher - 16th June - 8 yrs. old Leanne Silvestri - 28th June On behalf of Flat Four I hope you enjoyed/enjoy for some these milestone birthdays and if I missed anybody out my sincere apologies, it just means I haven't got all of your dates yet.

If you do have any exciting news or milestones coming up, please let me know, I think we all enjoy 'Barb's Bits' and it's nice knowing what's been happening in the world of Flat Four.

Until next time, Keep the shiny side up, Barb.

### **ANZAC Day Picnic at Mount Annan Botanical Gardens April 25<sup>th</sup> Rod Raymond**

ANZAC DAY RUN. Anzac day for many began bright and early remembering those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Once the sun was up and it was a little warmer members met at Narellan McDonalds. The group soon swelled to a healthy number and with enough troops on hand Dan and Rochelle led the corps down Narellan road on a short cruise before we reached the battlefield. Oops, I mean park. We invaded via the main gate, our entry unopposed. After what seemed like an endless number of twists and turns scouting for an un-defended (oops I mean un attended) site to park up, dismount and set up camp. Fortunately we came across such a place. We quickly began to enjoy the small pleasures of life while waiting for stragglers. We were soon sharing a warm cuppa and some amazing nibbles whilst revelling in one another's company. The kids were occupied for hours with remote control cars, soccer balls, torpedo balls and model airplanes. The hours sped as we BBQ'd our snags and onions (Slowest BBQ on the planet) but despite having to wait the troops maintained their spirits. The weather began to close in later in the day and fortunately we had shelter thanks to Dan. Not even the cool temperature, clouds and sprinkles could spoil what was a truly fantastic day. So much fun that the park closing time had crept upon us and it was time for the troops to bug out. So a huge thanks to all who made it a truly wonderful day. Thank you all for bringing such great food to share. A big thanks to Steve and Barb for the thankless task of lugging the club trailer and ensuring its contents is up to spec. I am sure we all look forward to sharing ANZAC day 2018 with our club family. In memory of our fallen. . Lest we forget



### **Berry Show and Shine May 5<sup>th</sup> Dave Silvestri**

What a CRACKER day for a cruise!! Unfortunately...our numbers were low...only 4 of us and two of those cars were from the Critcher family! Anyway Leanne & I were very excited to get out amongst the VW community as this was Ela's official first outing to a "VW car show", since being "rebirthed". We met up with the rest of the club members at Kev & Amys house at Albion Park. As we arrived there waiting was Rod in his Kombi. So that was it people! Leanne & I in Ela, Rod in his Kombi (sorry Rod not too sure if you have a name for your nice ride) , Amy & Maddie in Eeyore & Kev, Harvey & Sofie in Oscar. Amy led out followed by us then Rod & Kev. We cruised sweetly along the coast towards Kiama & as we reached the big dip leading up to the Kiama bends...this is when I opened up Ela in 4th & we simply glided up the hill at 2700rpm. WOW! This motor & gearbox combo is soooo bloody awesome! The Adam Law 1904 stroker along with Penrose tall ratio gearbox is the perfect marriage & now she is run in....she is performing even better. Leanne gave me a dirty look as we

rolled passed Amy & eased our way thru the bends...backing off as we waited for the others to catch up. It was at this point that I realized Kev was not there at all!! Leanne makes a text to Amy & she tells us he had to turn around due to the fact he had left the flyers for the coffee run at home! Well....let me tell you...that's ALL he had to do really wasn't it! Get himself in the bus & bring the flyers! Hilarious! He left them on the kitchen bench....you can imagine Amy's response! Anyway the rest of our run into Berry was great. The new road is now open & it cuts out at least 15 minutes travel time. The road is..of course..very good but it has a few rises in it & Ela absolutely loved it. Her torquey engine pulls extremely well. We roll into Berry & into the car park on the grass...it's packed! We managed to squeeze in at the end but Amy was not confident in reverse parking her beetle. So she asked a friend in Shoalhaven club to do it for her. He had a lot of trouble getting it into gear...especially reverse. I said...dude give me a go! But I had the same problem...I couldn't get it into any gear!! I said to Amy I think your clutch is shot! So we ended up pushing it into place. With the normal group of people milling around our cars as we set up & fill in the forms, we decide to head to the markets but tell each other we will meet up at the pub furthest down the road...as you drive in..for lunch.

Leanne & I head off for a quick wander thru the markets...straight to the old tools of course. I wanted a coffee but the line for this was ridiculous. We then ran into Rod who was looking for ugg boots for a mother's day gift for Jenny. We told him we will meet at the pub around 11.30. That gives us time to eat before the crowds arrive there. We didn't spend much time at the markets as we wanted to visit our friends at their olive shop to stock up. We went there but decided to go after the show on our way out so we aren't carrying them around all day. So after a quick look thru Haven & Space...(we can never go to Berry without going thru there) we head off to the pub where Rod. Amy, Kev & kids were waiting. Lunch was good as usual & the mystery of the afternoon was..."what the hell is on the kids chips!" With all of us trying to work it out...I still don't know what it was. I thought they tasted like donuts...really weird. Anyway back to the show & the raffle draw & trophy. As last year they do a reverse raffle where the first ticket pulled gets the 5th prize? I don't get that. If you are lucky enough to get pulled out first out of all those tickets then you should get the major prize right! But not at Berry.

The trophy was also won by a club member of theirs I think. A guy named Fabian who had a drag beetle. There was a lot of nice cars there especially Samba 1,2 & 3. Anyway this is why Leanne & I do not attend car shows anymore...we only go there for the drive & day out & we had a fantastic day all up with some incredible weather.

We let the others take off by themselves as we went around to buy our olives & then we took off ourselves. Have I already told you how amazing Ela is? Well I'm telling you again. She is sensational & so different to any other VW I have driven. She glides quietly along & has so much torque. So enjoyable to drive & long distance is now her area of sweet performance. You know.... I think I like driving her more than my oval I reckon....oh crap did I just say that? Don't tell Olly...he will be upset.

### **VW Nationals Go Karts May 29<sup>th</sup> Phil Svoronos**

Best day ever! For those of you who did not attend....sucked in! In summary;

- the sun was shining,
- the air was crisp,
- the attendees were varied in age, size, ability, but were all very friendly,
- the track was long and fast,
- the racing was competitive and friendly,
- the lunch was hearty,
- the value for money was outstanding,
- the Westside group had fastest overall & fastest individual lap (my pleasure).

Want to know more, then you had better hope they do it again next year.

### **VW Nationals Show and Shine May 30<sup>th</sup> Phil Svoronos**

Another blue bird day. As expected they had over 250 cars entered with a large range of Beetles and Kombis to admire and inspire. The water cooled were also well represented. Ghias were a bit thin so for those of you who own one, dust them off and get them there next year. Congratulations to Club Vee Dub for continuing to provide a variety of free entertainment on the day and for another great show.

### **VW Nationals Show and Shine May 30<sup>th</sup>Max Fleming-Morris**

Me and Daddy went to look at the cars, I got ice cream and some new ghost buster cars, and lots of people took my photo while I got pushed around in my car. It was really good!

*Thank you for those club members who contributed to the newsletter this month. If you have anything you would like to contribute, stories of amazing cruising, tales of woe etc please feel free to send them to me*



*(Rochelle.m.fleming@gmail.com) and I will add them in as I know the rest of the club members would love to read them.*

## Genuinely unique

One of a kind: We introduce you to some individualists among Volkswagen models – and tell their stories.  
Episode 1: The Vocho Teotihuacano.



### The Aztec art Beetle.

Mexico and the Beetle – the combination has a long history. The final few of a total of 21.5 million cars were built there as late as 2003. For decades, Mexico City's streets were characterised by the omnipresent green Beetle taxis. This exceptional "Vocho" (as it is called there) edition, definitely not designed for mass production, comes from a workshop in San Martín de las Pirámides, and is linked to various strands of history: On the one hand, the images, faces and ornaments on the body of the Vocho Teotihuacano ("Beetle from Teotihuacán") reference Mexico's cultural heritage and traditions. On the other hand, the artwork documents the close historical automotive bond between Mexico as a manufacturing location and the Volkswagen brand. The mosaics on the body represent symbols of pre-Hispanic culture.

The workshop of project head Héctor Garnelo Navarro and his five-strong team is located some 50 kilometres east of Mexico City, near the prehistoric ruins of Teotihuacán, after which the Vocho was named. The artisans needed nearly three years to apply more than 19,800 semi-precious stones such as obsidian, jade and aventurine quartz, among others, to the car. No one will really drive it anymore. The Vocho Teotihuacano is currently on a tour of various museums. It will subsequently be auctioned off to benefit a children's cancer support organisation – and be given a place of honour.



In figures.

Year the Beetle was built: 1994

Unique model completed: 2015

Semi-precious stones: 19,800

Extra car weight due to the stones: 210 kilograms

Article taken from Volkswagen Australia's Website: <http://magazine.volkswagen.com.au/genuinely-unique-The-Vocho-Teotihuacano.html>

## Coming Events

The runs in *cursive* are runs that are on but are not official club runs. If anyone is interested in going, post on FB and other club members may be interested in joining you.

### June

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> to Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Kangaroo Valley Camping trip

*Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Cars under the Stars at Sydney Dragway. Please note if you wish to park in the show you need to pre-book your spot via the FB group.*

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Kev's run to Yallah Woolshed for morning tea/brunch. Meeting in the Wollongong Lighthouse carpark at 9:30am to leave at 10am for a leisurely cruise. Alternatively we are meeting at Koshigaya Park to leave at 8:30am to cruise down to the lighthouse as a club.

### July

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Bugs and Buses By the Bay Croudace Bay Park from 9am. We have not organised a meeting time/location however if people are keen we can make plans on FB.*

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Club Meeting Woodbine McDonalds 6pm

*Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Harrys Café de Wheels from 7pm Orange Grove Rd Liverpool*

*Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Cars under the Stars at Sydney Dragway. Please note if you wish to park in the show you need to pre-book your spot via the FB group.*

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> Goulburn Brewery Cruise. Details to be confirmed.

### August

*Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Harrys Café de Wheels from 7pm Orange Grove Rd Liverpool*

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August Grange Classic Garage- Flat Four will be the Feature Club for the Month. Details to be confirmed.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Club meeting Woodbine McDonalds 6pm

*Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Cars under the Stars at Sydney Dragway. Please note if you wish to park in the show you need to pre-book your spot via the FB group.*

### September

*Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Harrys Café de Wheels from 7pm Orange Grove Rd Liverpool*

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Club meeting Woodbine McDonalds 6pm

*Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Cars under the Stars at Sydney Dragway. Please note if you wish to park in the show you need to pre-book your spot via the FB group.*

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Kiama Market and Show Day Hosted by the Romans Hot Rod Club. Detailed to be confirmed.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September-Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October Old Bar Beach Festival

### October

*Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Harrys Café de Wheels from 7pm Orange Grove Rd Liverpool*

*Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Cars under the Stars at Sydney Dragway. Please note if you wish to park in the show you need to pre-book your spot via the FB group.*

### November

*Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Harrys Café de Wheels from 7pm Orange Grove Rd Liverpool*

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Club meeting Woodbine McDonalds 6pm

*Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Cars under the Stars at Sydney Dragway. Please note if you wish to park in the show you need to pre-book your spot via the FB group.*

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Kiama Market and Show Day Hosted by Flat Four-details to be confirmed

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

### **May**

5<sup>th</sup> Amy France-Little Amy is 18!  
11<sup>th</sup> Brett Poole  
14<sup>th</sup> Malcolm Moore  
23<sup>rd</sup> Max Fleming-Morris -3 yrs. old  
25<sup>th</sup> Warren Easton 'The Big 40'

### **June**

4<sup>th</sup> Kevin Critcher- The Chief is 40  
12<sup>th</sup> Mandy Webster  
15<sup>th</sup> Phil Svoronos - Can't be 45  
16<sup>th</sup> Maddi Critcher- 8 yrs. old  
28<sup>th</sup> Leanne Silvestri

