Transmission

OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2026



Official Magazine of the

ROOTES GROUP CAR CLUB QLD Inc

(Incl Humber, Hillman, Sunbeam, Singer, Commer & Karrier Vehicles and Clubs in Queensland)

Just one of the many benefits of membership

PRESIDENTS REPORT – OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2026

It has been a little quiet on the Club events since last month with only two official events, namely All British Day and the annual Northern run.
All British Day is held at Tennyson at the St Josephs playing fields annual and usually has a theme which this year was celebrating British made Fords.
There were over 600 cars in attendance and Lyn and I drove the Sunbeam Rapier to the event.
We were joined by Des Cobham bring his Series 2 Humber Vogue, Bob Otto with his Hillman Hunter, Aaron Easterbrook with his Series 4 Sunbeam Alpine and several other Hillmans and Sunbeams also being displayed.
There was a lot of interest in our vehicles from both attendees and the public and spent the remainder of the day perusing the other marques on display.
The following weekend we travelled to Stanthorpe to attend the Queensland Heritage Rally which this year was hosted by the Stanthorpe Historic Vehicle Machinery Group. This event occurs every two years at a different location in Queensland and features hundreds of vintage tractors, stationery engines, classic cars, historic trucks and motor cycles and steam engines.
There were live demonstrations of stationery engines (although they needed Gary Ellis' expertise in getting one of them fired up)!
There were also blacksmiths plying their trade along with tractor pulling contests along with a great display of classic cars. One in particular grabbed my attention was a Hillman Minx Mark 5 from the early 1950s which was a local car in the same family I believe in totally unrestored condition.
Our visit was unfortunately a brief one as I dropped off a couple of steering racks for Gary Ellis to repair for the Alfa 164 and then a quick trip down to Wooli for the weekend.
We then flew to Christchurch to attend the annual Sunbeam Car Club of NZ Mainland branch's annual run this year was to Nelson at the top of the South Island. Each year they hold a run to the north (TOPSI), or the South (BOTSI) or to the middle (MIDSI).
Unfortunately our Rootes cars are stored on the North Island so we attended in a hire car confirming to me how boring modern cars are to drive.
There were over a dozen Sunbeams and Humbers in attendance who drove up from Christchurch and local members who came along for the drive. It was great to catch up with friends we have not seen for over a year since we took our Humber Sceptre north.
The trip from Christchurch was very wet and cold as we drove up the scenic east coast to Kaikoura through to Blenheim where the rain left us for a lunch stop at Renwick.
The next day we drove up the coast, stopping for lunch at Kaiteriteri on the beach, a stop off point for those walking the Abel Tasman track.
On the way home visited a collection of British and European Fords in several sheds, featuring a variety of models not seen or sold in Australia. I still find the Ford Capri one of my favorites plus the Granada's which the Ford Falcon XD model was derived from in 1979.
The weekend included more dinners and drives and we were soon heading south again to Christchurch. Even though we had a small four-cylinder car returning 35mpg the cost of fuel for the trip was over $300. Fuel is more expensive in NZ where we were paying 80c to $1 more per litre for ULP91. That said, with the weaker NZ currency the exchange rate was around NZ$1.20 to A$1 so travelling to NZ is really great value at present (not so for our NZ cousins travelling overseas).
Unfortunately due the wet weather and flooding we experienced in late October we reluctantly had to cancel the Northern Run on October 27; which we will do again it next year.
I have taken the liberty to include the report of the Hillman National Rally in Wagga on September 11 to 15, a another great rally!
The final event for the year will be our Christmas Party with will be at the Grand View Hotel Cleveland on November 29 so details are in the magazine look forward to catching up with you then.

Also, you can always contact me directly on 0402 423 800 or by email at elizabethkindy@westnet.com.au.

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Do you have an idea for a run or event? Please contact the Events Co-ordinator! Thank you.

Month	Date	Day	Event / Address	Address	Sponsor	Start
Nov	29	Sunday	Christmas Party	Grand View Hotel 49 North Street Cleveland	RGCCQ	11:30
Dec	Nil	Nil	No Event			

REGULAR CAR MEETS AROUND BRISBANE

This is NOT a complete list. If you can recommend another, let us know so we can add it to our list.

Old Petrie Town, Petrie - Fri nights, Sat and Sun morning, every week.

1st Saturday of month 7.30 am - Cars and Coffee - Samios Foods Turbo Drive Coorparoo

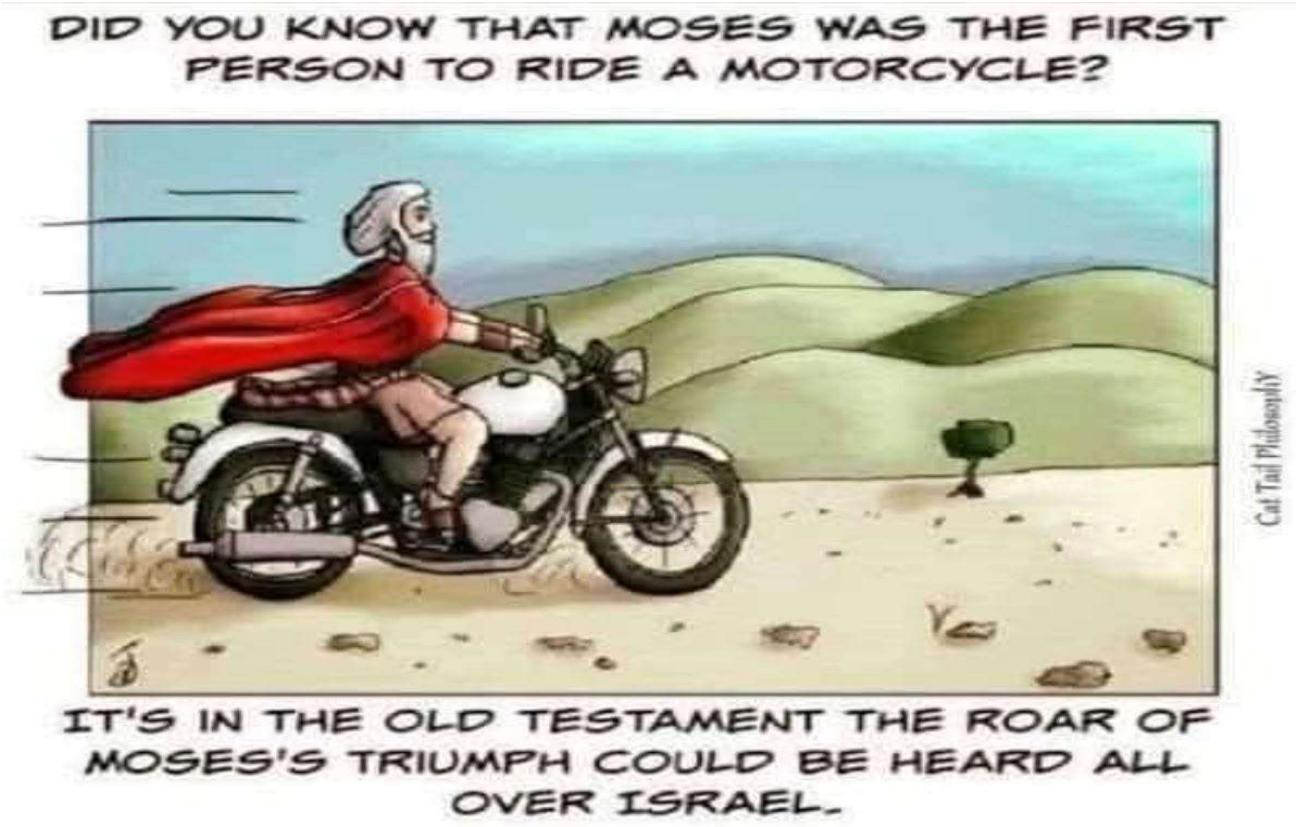
1st Sunday of month 7.00 am - Greg's Cars and Coffee-Victoria Point Shops

2nd Sat of month 7.30 am - Coffee, Crunch and Chrome - Joes Diner - Kingsford Smith Dr. Eagle Farm

Last Saturday of month 8.00 am Cars and Coffee - Ormeau, 270 Lars Rd.

Last Sunday of month 8.00 am Breakfast and Cars - Beenleigh Historic Village

2nd Sunday of month 10.00 am Waterloo Bay Hotel - Berrima St Wynnum



All British Day



All British Day Line Up and Lyn and David Phillips' Rapier





Des Cobham's Beautiful Humber Vogue



Aaron Easterbook's Series 4 Sunbeam Alpine - Great Colour and Car

Queensland Heritage Rally Stanthorpe

Very Original Hillman Minx, a great story!



Gary Ellis' Commer Truck



Sunbeam Car Club NZ TOPSI Rally Nelson



Sunbeams in Nelson



Humber Ramblings November 2026

Well here it is November; my Liquid Amber tree has burst into leaf so that proves we are now in Spring. Spring has not sprung but jumped right onto us with some very hot dry days for the start of the season and at last as I write this after quite a long dry spell we have had some lovely rain. Unfortunately, this resulted in the cancellation of Rob Heiner's northern run to the Bribie area and surrounds. Hopefully early next year it will be on the calendar as it sounds like a great run to new places with other Clubs and I know Rob and Gayle have put a lot of work into organising it already. I still remember Rob's run last year around Maleny and that was wonderful. Now, as it is November already, and the Jacarandas are absolutely beautiful, "tomorrow "it will be Xmas so I hope you are making preparations and don't forget our Club Xmas party.

I had the opportunity to go to the Samford Car Show which I had heard about last year so as it is quite close I thought I would go along. To my surprise 350-400 cars of all types and vintages turned up. There is plenty of room so it was easy to find a spot. Speaking of vintage, it was good to see Bob Otto there in the Hunter and in the Classic era Murray Gauld was also there. There were a great variety of cars and years, something for everyone and it was very pleasant chatting to the owners. Perhaps we could incorporate it as a run next year and have a group of Rootes cars.
You never know what you will see at these shows and I was most surprised to see my mother in laws old 1962 Mini just in front of where I parked. I had a long chat with the current owner and filled him in on its history and how my mother in law won it in a TV competition. He is now the third owner and it is still in very good condition.

Talking of condition, Nola and I had four days out west to Oakey, Chinchilla and Wallumbilla There is some beautiful country out there but it was very dry. Hopefully the rain that we have just had will bring a little joy to the farmers. If you are out that way the Miles Museum is one not to be missed. Unsurprisingly, everywhere you go is a long way so we didn't see too many EVs on our weekend, but there were lots and lots of big trucks, no electric ones though. Perhaps the distances were too great. This brings me to a little food for thought on the subject. The new Jaecoo J5 will take approximately35 hours to charge at home and if you spend another $5,000 for a dedicated charger, and $5,000 to install it, it will take about 11.5 hours for about a 400km range. That is a fair bit longer than we took filling our car on our long weekend. With our timeframe and the distances we covered I think there would have been some range anxiety experienced in an EV! When I checked we did just over1200kms in the four days.

It will be interesting to see how EV sales change when the government incentive ceases shortly. Obviously lower than expected sales level have effected all the manufacturers and it has been reported that the cancelation of one Ford EV program has already cost the automaker $100 million in Q1 2025, and in its Q2 2025 financial report, the company revealed that it took a $400 million dollar hit over the first half of the year. Ford's year-end 2025 earnings report showed that the automaker absorbed $1.2 billion in losses last year after opting to cancel a pair of future EVs, and according to its Q1 2026 earnings report, The Blue Oval tacked on another $100 million to that total in the first quarter of the year. Despite these losses, Ford isn't giving up on electric vehicles - not by a long shot. Rather, it's going all-in on the new Universal Electric Vehicle (UEV) Platform, which will debut next year in a mid-size pickup. That innovative new product will present buyers with a lot of Ford "firsts" - a 48-volt electrical system, a structural battery pack, a native North American Charging Standard (NACS) port, and aerodynamics designed by folks using learnings from Formula 1 racing to optimize range and efficiency. Time will tell I guess for all the automakers.

All this shocking electrical talk reminded me that on my weekend away out beyond Chinchilla, was some beautiful, irrigated farming land and then suddenly right in the middle was a huge solar farm. On our way back I checked and it was one kilometre long and disappeared back into the distance.

This seems very wrong to me in prime agricultural land but perhaps it was the only rocky ground for 50-60 kilometres of good productive farming country!!!!!! Enuff!!

As if we don't have enough digital things to worry about it seems that the Southern states are having problems with our digital licences and will not accept them as proof of ID and you might be classed as not having a licence, This has prompted the following reply from TMR ***I think the best advice I can give on this one is that while the Queensland Digital Licence is accepted universally within Queensland, that isn't necessarily going to always be the case outside of Queensland. While you could try and check with each and every jurisdiction about what they accept for various transactions, the easier option would be to take a physical (plastic card) Licence when not in Queensland. This mirrors the advice provided online here*** - *https://www.qld.gov.au/digital-licence/about#travelling*

For those of you considering travelling interstate this is something that you need to plan for.
As well, QHMC has also learned that when registering a SIVs vehicle you are now required by TMR, along with the rest of the pile of paperwork, to present a letter from the club, complete with club letterhead to confirm you are a current financial member of said club. The TMR approved dating certificate (on QHMC website) is also not sufficient despite it having a Stat declaration contained within it. When will the red tape ever cease?!!!!!

Now it has taken me some time to get over the fact that my Super Snipe was only running on four cylinders and so finally biting the bullet, I found it had blown a half inch hole in the gasket between No.1and 2 cylinders. I am now in the search for another gasket and then to put everything back together again. Such is life and driving old cars is never meant to be easy.!!!
Enjoy your driving and hope to see you at the Xmas function,
Regards, Adrian

18th Hillman National Rally - Wagga Wagga

The National Rally was a great few days, with perfect weather throughout. We enjoyed warm, sunny days and, thankfully, everything came together very well.
Most of the Rally Committee travelled to Wagga Wagga a few days before the official start of the rally to make sure everything was organised and ready to go. After two years of planning and preparation, it was very satisfying to finally see the rally get underway.
We had 31 entries, including a couple of modem vehicles for various reasons. Attendance varied between 49 and 53 people, depending on the night, with some people having to leave early because of other commitments. Although the numbers were a little lower than we had originally hoped for, in hindsight the size of the group was actually ideal. We didn't have to split into groups at the various venues, and we were able to spend time talking to and getting to know everyone. I think this was one of the things that made the rally so enjoyable for all of us.
People travelled from Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales, with the majority of people coming from NSW.
We were very fortunate to have Aunty Mary, a Wiradjuri Elder, officially open the rally with a Welcome to Country. We were also entertained by an Indigenous Dance Group from Ashmont Public School, which was a wonderful addition to the opening of the rally.
Wagga Wagga Mayor Dallas Tout joined us for the Presentation Evening and proved to be very good company. It was great to have the Mayor there to share the evening with us, and to be able to thank Wagga Wagga Council for its support of our event. There was plenty happening throughout the rally. We held a raffle with prizes donated by the Rally Committee, as well as a beautiful, embroidered cushion donated by Jennifer Yeomans. Chris and Geordie organised and ran a trivia and organised lucky door prizes, which were very well received. The leftover regalia from previous rallies also proved popular, with quite a lot being sold. Chris did a great job looking after the new club clothing and regalia tables throughout the rally.
The meals at each of our venues were another highlight. They were all fantastic - delicious and plentiful, with some people even taking home the equivalent of a doggy bag!

During the rally we visited a great variety of places and attractions, including the historic townships of Junee and Coolamon, the RAAF Museum, the Cheese Factory, the Liquorice Factory, the Roundhouse Railway Museum, the Gasworks Garage Museum and the Fire Museum. There was certainly plenty to see and do, and the variety of venues gave everyone something to enjoy.

One particularly special moment was recognising the three people who have attended every National Rally since the very first rally in 1992: Geordie Jack, Neil Yeomans and Lindsay Marskell. Their record of supporting the National Rally over so many years is a wonderful achievement.

Saturday saw our Show & Shine, with Charles Oliver, President of the Wagga Wagga Veteran Vintage Motor Club, Geoff Green, our Club President, and Bernie Meehan from the Rootes Club Car Club Victoria joining us as judges.

The Show & Shine winners were:

Pre-1945: David Easton (NSW)
Mark Minx: Nomi Rutherford (NSW)
Series Minx: Jim Wilson & Lenore Newman (NSW)
Super Minx: Marty & Lynne Sutherland (Victoria)
Hunter/Avenger: Shiran & Imara Fernando (Victoria)
Gazelle: Shannon Goldspring (NSW)
Husky: Peter & Denise Jensen (Victoria)
Imp: Allan and Jan Walter (Victoria)
People's Choice: Neil & Jennifer Yeomans (Victoria)
Longest Distance Travelled: Keith & Jann Parkinson (South Australia)

We were also very fortunate to have lots of photographs taken throughout the rally. Shayne did a fantastic job as our unofficial "official" photographer, and we are very grateful to him for capturing so many moments. Walter also took lots of photos, as did many other people attending the rally. In fact, I think we have enough photographs to completely fill the next few newsletters! The canola trails and the blossoms around the region were particularly picturesque and provided some wonderful backdrops for our cars.

Perhaps the most rewarding part of the rally has been the feedback we have received. We have had many thankyous and very positive comments from people during the rally and since returning home, through text messages, emails and phone calls. We were especially pleased to hear from people attending their very first National Rally who told us what a wonderful time they had and that the rally had exceeded their expectations. Some even asked if we could do it all again next year!

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who attended from far and wide, and especially our Rally Committee for all their help and commitment over the past two years, but particularly during the rally itself. Everyone jumped in whenever and wherever they were needed, and we worked extremely well together.

All the planning and preparation really paid off, and the rally ran smoothly and, for the most part, like clockwork. Most importantly, we were able to make sure that everyone who attended was looked after, had plenty to see and do, enjoyed some great food and, hopefully, went home with some very good It was a huge team effort, and I think we can all be very proud of the rally we put together. We hope you enjoy seeing some of the many photos taken during the rally


IF YOU REMEMBER OPENING THAT LITTLE TRIANGULAR WINDOW IN THE CAR TO GET A BREEZE RIGHT IN YOUR FACE, YOU MUST HAVE GRAY HAIR.


Jumeira 1
First day of owning a
Tesla Roadster

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MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE 01 January each year

Interested in joining? Please go to https://rgccqld.org.au/join/,

Payments to: Suncorp Internet Banking (Rootes Group Business Premium)
BSB 484 799 Account 481 960 636
Please include your surname in the Reference field when using online banking, thank you.

Affiliated with the QUEENSLAND HISTORIC MOTORING COUNCIL INC **email: qhmc.net.au**

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Club meetings are usually held as published in the Events Calendar. Friends and prospective members are ALWAYS welcome. The next scheduled Committee meeting is at a date to be advised.

MEMBERS: CREATE YOUR OWN IMPROMPTU EVENT

LEAD OTHERS TO A FAVOURITE SPOT OF YOUR CHOOSING. ENJOY THEIR COMPANY IN THE CLASSIC CARS

REMEMBER TO CARRY A COPY OF THE IMPROMPTU EVENT WITH YOU WHEN DRIVING TO AND FROM ANY EVENT

Impromptu Events / COVID

Financial / Current Members – create your own impromptu event.
Lead others to a favourite spot of your choosing and enjoy their company in their classic cars.
Remember to carry a copy of the impromptu event approval with you when driving to and from any event.
It is also wise to carry a printed copy of the invitation / newsletter excerpt / webpage of any event you are travelling to and from in case you are pulled over for any reason.

The Management Committee recommend the following advice be offered to our members who may be contemplating taking part in Club activities in the future:

The Club's website has an Application Form that when fully completed is automatically sent to the Events Manager.
His job will then require resending the Application as an email to ALL members.
Accordingly, the Application will require a start time and those members wishing to take part in the Event will need to phone the Applicant to obtain the requisite details.

It is anticipated that these Impromptu Events will often take place during mid-week outside of the regular Club events.
You will be asked to obtain the names of attendees and for them to sign an attendance sheet.

See this on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/World-of-Rootes-Group-Cars (Over 3000 photos)
See this on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Rootes Group Buy or Sell Cars and/or Parts

WEARING OF SEAT BELTS—CLASSIC VEHICLES

The government camera scheme to detect wearing of seatbelts has been clarified by the Transport Main Roads with respect to wearing them whilst in a Classic car built prior to 1969 (when seatbelts were not installed when manufactured). A representative of the TMR has stated that all photos taken are cross-referenced with the vehicle registration details and if the vehicle is prior to 1969 and NO belts were fitted, NO FURTHER ACTION WOULD OCCUR—THE PHOTO WOULD BE DISMISSED.
However, if a photo was inadvertently processed and a summons was issued, contact TMR and they will deal with it in your favour.

DISCLAIMER

Readers of this magazine are advised to use caution in following any technical or other advice that may be given in any article, as the Club and committee cannot accept responsibility for its accuracy or reliability. The views expressed by correspondents do not necessarily represent the views of the Club.

HUMBER HOSPITALITY

A service offered by all Australian Humber car clubs, including ours.
A volunteer service of “tea and sympathy” (followed by help where possible) for members experiencing vehicle breakdowns while travelling interstate.

Please use this service responsibly and call for assistance only where you and / or the Automobile Road Service are unable to rectify the problem.

(ACT) Rod Calvert. Farrer. Phone: 02 6286 4035

(NSW) Bruce Carpenter. Maryland (Newcastle). Phone 0414 619 108

(NSW) Jack Harris. 218 Duff Street, Broken Hill 2880. Phone 08 8088 5843

(NSW) Roger Foote, Eastwood (Sydney). Phone 0448 HUMBER

(NSW) Denis Boyle. 51 Shelleys Lane, Thirlmere (SW Sydney). Phone 02 4683 0643 / 0478 047 690

(NSW) Alan Lindsay “Winamie” 595 Rocky Range Road Delegate (SE NSW). Phone 0428 588 083

(QLD) David and Lyn Phillips. Bulimba (E Brisbane). Phone 0402 423 800

(QLD) Adrian Grant. The Gap (W Brisbane). Phone 07 3300 3955 or 0434 383 055

(QLD) Max Webster. 576 Drayton Connection Rd, Finnie (Toowoomba). Phone 0418 716 268

(VIC) Bob Kennedy. Glenlyon (near Daylesford). Phone 03 5348 7692

(VIC) Keith Willimott. Watsonia (NE Melbourne). Phone 03 9435 6354

(WA) Brian and Rosemary Phillips. Gooseberry Hill (E Perth). Phone 08 9293 2674

(SA) Winston Bryant. Blakeview. (near Gawler). Phone 0403 024 385

MEMBERS OFFERING SERVICES

Some of our club's members offer services that may assist you with your Rootes classic.

Their contact details are listed here free of charge as a club service as part of their own club membership.

(Any errors or omissions please let us know, and we'll fix next issue.)

- **John Harris (Rootes Rochedale)** can assist with Rootes parts and mechanical services.
  Phone number (07) 3341 5555
  email: rootesro@outlook.com
- **CARB TECH:** Paul White at Redcliffe 0417 713 662 can service most makes of carburettors on Classic Cars
- **Frank Schoenberger:** manufactures most rubber products for Rootes Cars.
  www.rootesautoparts.com

DON’T FORGET THE NEXT EVENT

NOVEMBER 2026 EVENT – CHRISTMAS PARTY

11.30AM TO 3.00PM

Sunday November 29

Grand View Hotel

49 North Street Cleveland

Final Word or three!!

During a trip across the United States, the Pope turned to his chauffeur and said:
"Pull over. I want to drive."
Being a devout Catholic, the driver would never dare question His Holiness, so he gladly climbed into the backseat while the Pope took the wheel.
A few miles down the highway, they were cruising along at 80 mph when a state trooper flashed his lights and pulled the limousine over.
Peering inside, the stunned officer walked back to his patrol car and immediately radioed headquarters.
"Chief, I've got a major problem. I just pulled over a speeding limo with an extremely high-level VIP in the back."
"Who is it?" the police chief asked. "The mayor?"
"No, sir. Someone way more important."
"Is it the governor?"
"No, Chief. Even more important than the governor."
"Don't tell me it's the President?!"
"No... someone even bigger than the President."
Losing his patience, the chief bellowed through the radio:
"Then WHO on earth is in that car?!"
The officer lowered his voice and whispered:
"I have no idea... but he's got the Pope as his chauffeur."