Gympie Historic Auto Club Inc.

POSTAL ADDRESS
PO Box 353 Gympie QLD 4570

November/December 2026

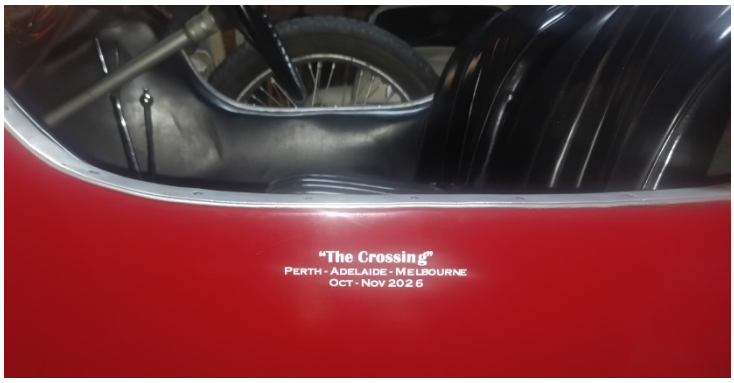
THE TALK TUBE

FACEBOOK: Gympie Historic Auto Club – new page 2024
WEBSITE: www.gympiehistoricautoclub.com.au
EMAIL:gympiehistoricautoclub@outlook.com

PRESIDENT'S PONTIFICATION



I can report that I survived the expedition across the continent and back and am pleased to report that the 501S and the backup transport performed very well after a very shaky start in Adelaide.



On the home front I find a bow wave of things to be done with precious little of the year left to do them in.

Thanks to the team for keeping the show on the road .

We can now focus wrapping up the year in the best way possible and preparing for the great unknown 2027.

Happy Safe Heritage Motoring - Ralph

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General Meeting Dates

Thursday 26th November at 7pm

Thursday 28th January at 7pm

2024 GHAC Elected Office Bearers			
Club position	*Elected officer*	*Phone contact*	*Email*
President	Ralph Richardson	0408 616 709	ralphrichardson5@bigpond.com
Vice President	Steve Stockden	5482 7256 or 0427 827 256	ssstockden@bigpond.com
Secretary	Carol White	5483 7361 or 0428 556 547	whiteshouse@spiderweb.com.au
Treasurer	Mel White	0499 908 490	
Rally coordinator	Rob White	0447725903	whiteshouse@spiderweb.com.au
Editor	VACANT		
Librarian	Paul van Horck	5483 9340 or 0488 023 282	vanhorck@hotmail.com
Dating Officer	Trevor Keene	0401 720 228	tkeene47@gmail.com
Swap Coordinator	Steve Stockden	5482 7256 or 0427 827 256	ssstockden@bigpond.com
Swap bookings	Yvonne Cooper	0460 864 044	ylcooper@hotmail.com
Meet and greet	Alan Brown	0419 179 220	arbrichard@hotmail.com

BANK DETAILS:
Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633-000
A/c No: 182657015
A/c Name: Gympie Historic

CLUB MERCHANDISE

GHAC club polo



The polo shirt is the Aussie Pacific Morris (army green and white)
It is short sleeve only in men's or ladies.
Mens (1317) - sizes S to 5XL
Ladies (2317) – sizes 6 to 26

GHAC club dress shirt



Regular Monthly events by other s

1st Saturday—Cars and coffee Sunshine Coast. 7am to 10am German Bakehouse Café, 54 Junction Drive Coolum Beach.

2nd Sunday—Cooloola Cove Cars and Coffee. 8am to 10am Shopping Centre Cooloola Cove

3rd Saturday– Moonlight at Matildas Traveston. 4pm to sunset (depending on season)

3rd Sunday—Cooroy Cruise—in. Maple St (opposite library and at rear of the shops). Hosted by Roadrunner Car Club

GHAC's UPCOMING RALLIES AND EVENTS 2026

If your vehicle is on concessional rego always carry the following items with you on club rallies or invitation rallies. ❖ *your club membership card* ❖ *copy of latest club rally calendar* ❖ *current vehicle rego certificate* ❖ *copy of current club newsletter (at least the rally page)* ❖ *entry forms if participating in another club's invitation rally*

Date/day	Time	Destination and information	Bring
NOVEMBER 2026			
7th Nov Fri	4pm – 9pm	Kingston House 125th birthday. Requested 1927 Chev truck and 1929 Morris for display at venue entry.	
13th Nov Fri	9:15am	Rally and visit Gympie Woodworks Museum. Meet at clubrooms at 9:15 am for BYO morning tea. Depart 9:45am on a short rally to the Woodworks Museum where you will find interactive displays and steaming up the boiler during Friday morning. $10 entry per person. Lunch – options available	Morning tea Entry $$$s
18 Nov Wed		Gympie High year 12 school event at school hall	
26th Nov Thu	7pm	GHAC November monthly meeting	
DECEMBER 2026			
3rd Dec Thu	5pm-7pm	Static display at Bunnings Christmas Family Night – park up at garden centre end of car park by 5pm	Chairs Tea/coffee
5th Dec Sat	11am	GHAC rally and Christmas Lunch ***MUST RSVP AND PAY TO GHAC BY 26 NOV*** Meet at clubrooms at 11am- short rally to lunch stop Lunch at Southside Bowls Club – arrive from 12 noon ready for 12:30pm lunch. Bar open at venue.	
11th Dec Fri	4:30pm To be confirmed	'Mary Christmas'- static display in Mary Street. Meet at clubrooms at 4:30pm. Depart at 4:45pm, travel together to Mary Street. Display 5pm to 8pm	Chairs
18th Dec Fri	4:30pm To be confirmed	'Mary Christmas'- static display in Mary Street. Meet at clubrooms at 4:30pm. Depart at 4:45pm, travel together to Mary Street. Christmas Carols Concert on centre stage. Display 5pm to 8pm	Chairs
Qld school holidays – Sat 12th Dec 2026 to Wed 27th Jan 2027			
NO CLUB MEETING IN DECEMBER- ENJOY THE FESTIVE SEASON			
JANUARY 2027			
28th Jan Thu	7pm	GHAC January meeting	

OBSECURE BUT TRUE FACTS
** The screwdriver was invented a hundred yeas before the screw. It was originally used to extract nails.
** William E. Boeing, founder of United Airlines, had a pet Pekingese dog called General Motors.
** The names Honda and Toyota derive from Japanese words for different kinds of rice fields.
**Trousers are responsible for twice as many accidents as chainsaws are.
Several common brand and tech names began as acronyms, including **WD-40 (Water Displacement, 40th Attempt), **Taser** (Thomas A. Swift's Electric Rifle), and **Radar** (RAdio Detection And Ranging).
**Koala paw prints are remarkably similar to human fingerprints, even under detailed microscopic examination
**In 1943, Harvard, Nebraska accidentally auctioned its operational jailhouse to a 16-year-old for $1.50

Christmas is fast approaching and planning is underway for the

2026 GHAC Christmas Lunch get together

On the day we will have a short rally from the clubrooms before arriving at Southside Bowls Club for lunch.



Rally	Meet at clubrooms at 11am
When	Saturday, 5th December, 2026
Where	Gympie Bowls Club 16 Bowlers Drive, Southside
Lunch	12 noon for 12:30 lunch
Cost	$35 per head (2 course meal) Club members will only pay$20 each Non-members/partners $35
Drinks	purchase at venue on the day, bar open.
Menu	Christmas lunch – alternate drop (roast beef/roast chicken; roast veggies; greens) Dessert (Christmas pudding; pavlova)
RSVP & payment	by Thursday 26th Nov 2026

(can book and pay at club meeting on Thu 26th Nov)

Numbers and payment to secretary, Carol, **by Thursday 26th November**

See Carol at club meeting/rally/etc or ph/text 0428 556 547

Methods of payment – cash/bank transfer by Thursday 26th November

Bank transfer to GHAC: Please use YOUR SURNAME Xmas as the reference. eg WHITE Xmas

BSB: 633000 A/c : 182657015 A/c Name: GHAC

Hope you can join us



- Why are Christmas trees bad at knitting? They always drop their needles.
- What did one snowman say to the other who was complaining? “Don’t worry — you’ll melt under pressure.”
- What do you call Santa when he takes a break? Santa Pause.
- Why did the Elf go to school? To improve his elf-abet
- What did Frosty’s girlfriend give him when she was mad at him? The cold shoulder.
- What do gingerbread men use when they break their legs? Candy canes.
- Why is everyone thirsty at the North Pole? No well.
- What do donkeys send out near Christmas? Mule-tide greetings.
- How did the reindeer learn to play piano? He was elf-taught.
- What do you call an old snowman? Water.

WOODWORKS











WHITES FUN DAY





KINGSTON HOUSE



COOINDA FAIR


Motorists travelling along the Eyre Highway which links Perth with Adelaide have no refuelling problems today, but in the 1920's . . .
"THE CROSSING" 1926 - 2026
CENTENARY CELEBRATION PROGRAM
PERTH - ADELAIDE - MELBOURNE, Oct - Nov 2026
Driven by members of the Western Australian Fiat Club, successfully crossed the Nullarbor mile-run from Perth to
Such remarkable at the time of appalling road conditions, summer heat, and clouds of engulfed the drivers as they "dogged" their way over the plains.
Since then have been established ri un and the same service— neet today's increasing road demands — is still being given by SHELL.
Modern Motor Magazine - August 1956











FIRST SOME HISTORY:

As many of you will know I am a bit keen on history, it fuels my interest in cars and motoring events globally.

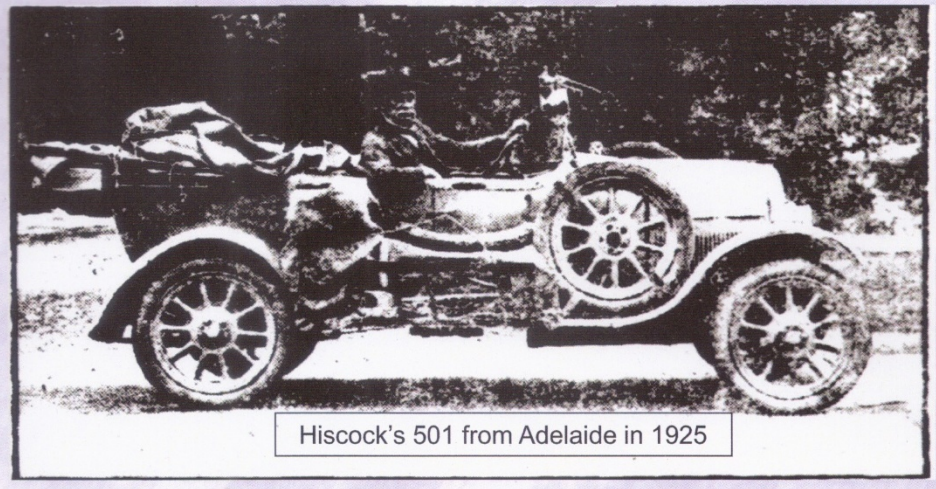


The 1926 Fiat Club of Western Australia Journey to Adelaide and Melbourne

In 1926, the Fiat Club of Western Australia undertook an extraordinary motoring adventure that demonstrated both the capabilities of the Fiat motor car and the determination of a small group of pioneering motorists.

Only a few years earlier, a journey from Perth to Adelaide or Melbourne by road had been regarded as a formidable undertaking. Transport from east to west in Australia was largely a maritime affair from settlement in 1829 until federation in 1901 when the nationally funded railway was promoted to encourage Western Australia to be part of the federated states. This opened in 1917 and further negated the requirement for a trans-continental road so adventurous folk tended to follow the 1877 telegraph line if they decided on an overland journey.

These tracks were dusty and irregular, reliable petrol supplies were scarce, accommodation was uncertain, and across the Nullarbor there were long stretches where travellers had little more than rough guides, bush camps and the experience of earlier explorers to guide them.

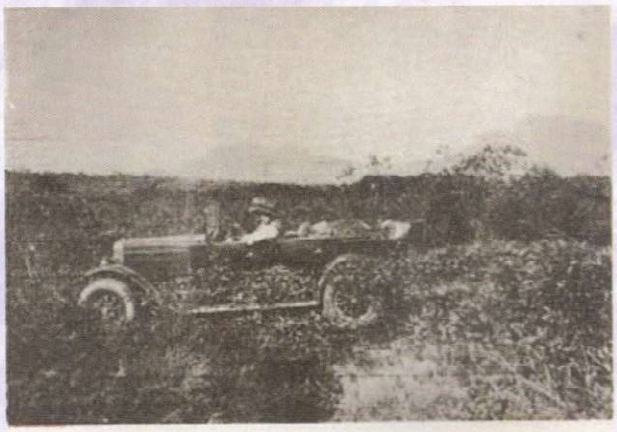


Hiscock's 501 from Adelaide in 1925

The Fiat Club of WA had been established in Perth in March 1925, with Dr Sawell as its first president. Fiat owners quickly developed a reputation for using their cars for serious touring, and the club's early long-distance expeditions became an important part of its identity. A Fiat 501 had already demonstrated the feasibility of crossing the Nullarbor to Adelaide, providing valuable knowledge about the route, road conditions, supplies and accommodation. The development of the motor car had arrived at an interesting moment post Ww1 where the smaller higher revving engines where beginning to challenge the larger existing designs.

The 1926 journey represented the next stage in this pioneering effort. Several Fiat 501s, together with a new 503, were involved in the eastward expedition. These were comparatively small cars by modern standards, powered by simple four-cylinder engines and designed primarily for ordinary road use rather than extended travel through remote country. Yet their reliability, economy and relatively straightforward mechanical construction made them well suited to the challenge.

Leaving Perth, the motorists faced the long journey east through the Western Australian goldfields before reaching the vast Nullarbor country. Much of the route consisted of rough, corrugated and sometimes indistinct tracks rather than anything resembling a modern highway. Travellers had to contend with dust, heat, mud and punctures, while fuel, water and food had to be carefully managed. The journey was as much an exercise in preparation as it was in driving.



In the "bush".

Adelaide provided an important milestone and a welcome connection with the developing motoring community of South Australia. From there the Fiat expedition continued towards Melbourne, extending the journey into the more settled eastern states. The arrival of Western Australian Fiats in the eastern capitals was significant: it demonstrated that the Nullarbor was not an impassable barrier but a route that could be conquered by determined motorists and reliable cars.



The expedition also had a significance beyond the Fiat Club itself. These early journeys helped establish practical knowledge of Australia's overland routes. The information gathered by the participants contributed to Shell's mapping and support for long-distance motoring, with the Fiat Club's travels forming part of the pioneering history of Australian road touring.

The 1926 journey therefore deserves to be remembered not simply as a long-distance drive, but as an adventure at the beginning of Australia's motoring age. The Fiat owners demonstrated that with courage, careful preparation and faith in their machines, it was possible to cross one of the world's most challenging stretches of country by motor car. Their achievement helped establish the Fiat Club of Western Australia as a pioneering motoring organisation and created a remarkable legacy that continues to inspire Fiat enthusiasts a century later.

2027 membership fees are due before 1st January 2027.



Your Current GHAC membership expires on 31st Dec 2026

Yearly dues:- **$35** (includes emailed newsletters)
:- **$50** (includes printed/posted newsletters)
NB: *If you want your club membership card mailed to you please add extra $2*
If you require printed/posted newsletters you will need to pay $15
–therefore you pay $35 + $15= $50 yearly dues (passed at 2025 AGM)
Period covered:- 1st January 2027 to 31 December 2027
Payment methods:
* **direct debit** to the club account **BSB** 633-000 **A/C** 182657015
Reference: YOUR SURNAME dues 2027 *eg WHITE dues2027*
* **cash or card** payment to the Secretary (Carol White)
* **cash or card** payment to the Treasurer (Mel White)

NB To retain eligibility for SIVS rego and insurance cover of SIVS registered vehicles you must be a financial member of a car club.
NB. Please ensure the club has your current address/phone number/email/vehicle details. Information is required to be recorded on the club membership register.

