

SPORTS 2022











July 2022



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In this issue...

- 2022 Calendar
- President's report
- Secretary's report
- Club Points Score:
- ❖ Winton Race Report
- Island Race Report
- New Life Members
- The Coca Cola Flyer
- GRM Roadtrip

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*The views expressed in articles included in these newsletters are not necessarily those of ASSA Vic Postal Address; ASSA Inc., P.O. BOX 1306, NARRE WARREN 3805

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2022 Calendar

** While we have made every effort to ensure these dates are accurate, changes do occur, especially in the current Covid uncertainty so keep this in mind when planning your program for 2022

PROPOSED VSCRC CALENDAR FOR 2022:

July 20 GRM Workshop Road trip

August 12-14 Round 4 Sandown *(The ASSA run round; we do not compete)

August 17th General meeting at Bell's Hotel

September 23-24 Round 5 Phillip Island

November 4-6 Sandown COMBINED State and National round

November 25-27 Island Magic round 5 for sports sedans



Hi Sports Sedan members and friends, several reminders and important news items for you:

Exciting news!! We have **our next club road trip** booked for the Wednesday night 20th July at the prestigious headquarters of **Garry Rogers Motorsport**, 2/13 Kitchen Road, Dandenong South. 6.30pm sharp and Pizza after. Please reply if you would like to come for catering purposes.

Our **50 year Anniversary** celebration on 30th April was a great night, enjoyed by 140 Sports Sedan supporters with many travelling from various places around the country. Congratulations to the organising committee of Stephen Craig, Norm Lee, Annie Gilliland and Shane Woodman for the huge effort that went in over 12 months and a massive thank you to Chris Neal for all his hard work and contribution. Thank you to MC Darren Smith and Rowan Harmon for hosting the panel of legends - Garry Rodgers, Jim Richards, Darren Hossack, Ron Harrop and Bryan Thompson, such a magnificent representation of our club. Photos are on our website under Media, Gallery https://www.sportssedan.com.au/gallery and Chris Neal has a facebook page "50 Years of Australian Sports Sedan Association".

The **208** page book of our ASSA Vic history that was displayed at the 50 year event will go to print shortly, some ordered on the night and so if you didn't or would like to order more please email reply and let us know how many copies you would like. For those that were not there, this is a fantastic bound book with articles, reports, pictures and editorials from the past 50 years and is available to buy for \$77 a soft cover version or \$110 for a hard cover version.

Our next round is the **ASSA Vic run event at Sandown Raceway** being Round four of the VSCRC on 12-14th August 2022 (note new date). We need helpers for the three days, particularly Friday. You do need a Working with Children permit and an officials licence. Please contact us if you are able to volunteer as it is the main fundraising event of the year for us.

The club **pointscore for the 2022 QPL Victorian Sports Sedan Championship** is live on our website, congratulations to John Ippolito who is currently leading outright from committee member Francois Habib with club stalwart Chas Talbot in third, enjoying his best year for a while.. https://www.sportssedan.com.au/pointscore

Our **facebook page** "Victorian Sports Sedan Championship" is great way of staying in touch with news, race meeting information and photos – check it out if you haven't already.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- July '22

Ok Ok, it's been a while – while the committee has been hard at work working on behalf of our members and the category, we have not published a newsletter for some months. Social media and email updates have continued, however we do appreciate that some of us like nothing better than some real hard copy to read, so he we go.

We finally got to celebrate the 50 Years of the ASSA Vic, on 30th April and welcomed foundation members, life members, former Presidents, past champions, committee, current members, family and friends, thanks for supporting the evening.

Big thanks to Anne Gilliland and Chris Neal for their great effort in getting the numbers for the night and making sure the rest of us chimed in. Anne, if you didn't know her before you certainly do now! She has put in many hours to get the numbers and the venue sorted. It was not been an easy task as we started planning for this event 3 years ago, have had several postponements, uncertainty over numbers, rules rules and more rules.... Chris, who once he got the go ahead, his dish plate eyes grew larger every time we saw him. Pursuing people at every opportunity and every new committer came with a story on who they knew, medical issues they were dealing or just plain how keen they were.

Thanks also to the Jaguar Club for supplying the Jag of Barry Sharp. The Sharp Jag looked magnificent and club reps were very proud and protective of their baby. Thanks to Anne & Graeme Gilliland for displaying the Rx7, built in 1989 by Barry Campbell. The car has raced at 123 actual race meetings, not including practice days.

Thanks Andrew and Andrea Cook for the book. The double A's are the go-to printers for us and will tackle anything in print (Brochures, stickers, race car signs - AJC Printing) and of course Brett Ramsay for Audio Visual. Brett spent many an hour trolling through old photos, video clips to produce a great visual experience for all in attendance on the night. We have programmed a club general meeting for August, so will organise another showing of the clips.

Many past and present members, all with a passion for the category attended the night, including some long-suffering partners! I have only been member for 40 odd years and to see some of my heroes from the early eighties in the room is testament to the great comradery we all get from this sport and association, whether as a national champion or a helper making our mates look good.

The Q&A of some of our heroes went off like a treat with moderator Rowan Harman and his merry men; Bryan Thompson, Garry Rogers, Ron Harrop, Jim Richards and Darren Hossack, these guys had the room and all seemed to genuinely enjoy themselves.

After a week on his own challenges Darren Smith did a masterful job of getting the vibe for the night and put up with us amateurs and with some challenges kept the night in order.

On behalf of Anne, Chris, myself and the ASSA committee, I would like to thank Darren, Brett, Rowan and Andrew (in no order of merit) for their above and beyond efforts on and prior to the night. All that I have spoken to have congratulated us on the event and greatly appreciated the opportunity to catch up with old friends and enjoy the many memories. I hang onto the fact that as a small club we achieved what we did and to be able to get the many old members and 'identities' to attend and who seemed to genuinely enjoy the night.

It was priceless to have Robinson and Johnson lost for words upon receiving their life membership induction! Elsewhere in this edition you will see an order form for the 50 year book. This is not a money-making venture, many hours of trolling though old mags, photos and history of the club in this state has been put in, so please fill out the order form and send it back to info@assavic.com.au. We intend going to print soon, so what to make sure we have enough copies for everybody.

As mentioned above we plan on having an August General meeting at Bells Hotel. There will some meaty matters to discuss as anybody if not living under a rock will have noticed the great numbers a categories and numerous promoter groups and various series. Our category needs to work out what we want to encourage our competitors to run as much as possible and within their means. Please put 17th August as side and come along to our general meeting for some audio visual and banter with your fellow club members.

All the best, Stephen Craig SS #51



SECRETARY'S REPORT

It has been a while and so much has happened I am not really sure where to start.

There have been three rounds of the championship and unfortunately our entries are very low at present. Need to get to work guys and get your cars out of the shed and onto the track ASAP.

Round 1 at Sandown, there was a great field as we had the Vic V8's running with us. Well done to Tony Groves on your pole position and winning the weekend.

Round 2 Winton, Tony Groves was on fire, and no one could catch him at all. Tony was on pole and won all three races by a country mile. Another great achievement for Tony and his team. I think I saw him doing a shoey at the end of the weekend. Great to see so much fun being had.

Round 3 Phillip Island, it was great to see Cameron McKee on pole, unfortunately for him though his weekend turned very pear shape with mechanical issues, resulting in DNF's. No good for the team after such a great start to the weekend.

Race I was won by Greg Lynch – great result for Greg and his team.

Races 2 and 3 were won by Francois Habib in great style. Well done team Habib.

The weekend was actually won by Stuart Eustice in the Marc car, I am sure Stuart had a smile from ear to ear. A great effort by Stuart and your team.

The highlight of the year finally was the running of our 50 Year Celebration Dinner.

This was held at Cargo Hall at Southwharf, the venue was amazing, and the food was even better. The work that went into organising this function was a huge job and I cannot thank Chris Neal enough for the work he did to get so many of the original members to attend. There were people from Queensland and NSW and many a tale told, I am sure. It was great to see so many of them enjoying the catch up after so many years of not seeing one and other, some had not seen each other for 40 years. Stephen Craig, Norm Lee, Shane Woodman, and Graeme Gilliland spent hours going through old newsletters and magazines to get information to put a book together. Brett Ramsay put together the Audio Visual with lots of old photos and footage of races back in the day. We were also very privileged with the help of Terry Wade to have the Barry Sharp Jag Sports Sedan on display for the evening. Thanks go to the Jag Car Club and especially Kevin Brown and Peter Moon along with their wives that attended on the night. Kevin was very helpful in getting the Jag along to the venue. Thanks also to Stephen, Warren, Tony, and Brett who helped me unload the Mazda to go on display during the evening. The cars added a wonderful touch to the venue. It was such a shame that two of our life members in Bob Gill and Bill Emeny were unable to attend the evening for various reasons. Not long and we can try for a sixtieth celebration in eight years' time.

We have arranged a road trip on July 20th to GRM in South Dandenong, commencing at 6.30 till 8.00. Then we will have some Pizzas in their lunchroom. If you would like to attend, please let me know as spaces are limited.

The next big event for our club will be the running of the next round at Sandown on the weekend of the 12th, 13th, and 14th August. Remember we don't compete at this round we become officials and help run the round. If you are able to help, please let Stephen Craig know your intention. There are many jobs available over the weekend. We would appreciate as much help as possible, especially on the Friday.

Sandown Historics in November will be a combined state national round so start thinking about your cars and getting ready to run this event. It would be wonderful to have a full grid of Sports Sedans.

No doubt as usual we will probably do something special for this round.

Anne Gilliland Secretary



LIFE MEMBERS CORNER 2022

For those of you who attended the 50-year bash, you may have noticed a crowd of matured aged tragics on the dais. There were 7 'sitting' life members in attendance on the night and the club had the privilege to welcome two new life members:

Damian Johnson #11

Damian has been a member of the ASSA Vic continuously since the early 90's. Seemingly always running his Torana Sports Sedan #19 with the assistance of his passionate father Murray. Damian first joined the ASSA Vic committee in 2000 and in 2001 was elected President, a role which he held for 2001, 2002, 2003 and when the club was in great need for a leader also in 2008 and 2017. Together with his wife Andrea Damian lead the club in the early 2000's when the category had great numbers and well attending general meetings. Damian continues to compete, more recently with the "Doug Clark' Holden powered Celica. Welcome Damian and thank you.

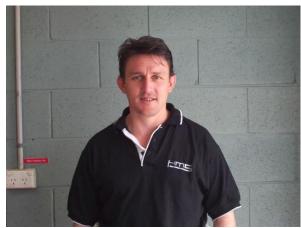




Michael Robinson #12

Michael has been a member of the ASSA Vic continuously since the early 90's. Michael first joined the ASSA Vic committee in 2009 and in 2012 was elected President, a role which he held for 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016. Michael started his competition in the category with his mate Rodney Woods in a shared Torana and has since been a multiple club champion in VN Commodore and more recently the Monaro. Michael continues to **be** very involved in the category at both state and national level. He spends many hours working for the category. Welcome Michael and thank you.





Sandown VSCRC Round 4, 12-14th August

We need your help

The next round of the State Series is the ASSA Vic run event at Sandown Raceway being Round four of the VSCRC on 12-14th August 2022 (note new date). We need helpers for the three days, particularly Friday. You do need a Working with Children permit and an official's licence. Please contact us (info@assavic.gov.au) if you are able to volunteer as it is the main fundraising event of the year for us.

RACE REPORT WINTON ROUND 2

Saturday Morning would see 12 cars out to qualify for round 2.

Tony Groves (Mornington Mazda / Valvoline) Mazda 3 set the early pace with a 1.23.8 on lap 2 followed by Gregory Lynch (Ravage Raceworks) Commodore and Damian Gambold Falcon and Graeme Gilliland (G&G Engineering / P&L Mechanical) Mazda RX7 putting fast laps in on their 3rd laps. Tony Groves would improve his time on lap 3 to put his Mazda 3 on pole with Gregory Lynch and Charles Talbot Camaro, would pit after 3 laps, leaving Tony Groves to be fastest followed by Dean Camm Corvette doing his fastest lap on his last lap, then would follow John Ippolito (AllClass Promotions) Commodore, Gregory Lynch, Damian Gambold, Ben McLeod Commodore, Graeme Gilliland, Cameron McKee (Truckrite Ausfleet Rental) Falcon followed by Charles Talbot, David Shaw, Falcon and the Craig Milvain (Taxbalance) Holden HQ.

Race 1 On Saturday in warm sunny conditions 11 cars greeted the starter for a 9 lap Race.

Tony Groves (Mornington Mazda/Valvoline) Mazda and Dean Camm, Corvette share the front row. Groves got a great start leading into turn one with Camm following from Francois Habib, Commodore. Graeme Gilliland (G&G Engineering/P&L Mechanical) Mazda slowed to a stop at turn 2 but refired the Mazda to re-join but would lose almost a lap to the field. John Ippolito (Allclass Promotions) Commodore in 4th, Damian Gambold, Falcon, Ben McLeod, Commodore and Cameron McKee (Truckrite/Ausfleet Rentals) Falcon having their own race together for almost 5 laps with McLeod making the pass on Gambold on lap 5. Tony Groves gapped the field with some very fast times, making his way through lapped traffic. Talbot's Camaro raced mainly alone for the 9 laps, Dean Camm and Francois Habib trading similar lap times for most of the race. Tony Groves taking the chequered Flag winning by almost 28 seconds followed be Dean Camm and Francois Habib, but Camm was given a 10sec penalty handing Habib second place, then followed John Ippolito, Ben McLeod, Damian Gambold, Chas Talbot, Cameron McKee, David Shaw Ford AU, followed by Graeme Gilliland and Craig Milvain (TaxBalance) Holden HQ.

Race 2 Sunday morning's sunny conditions saw 11 cars greet the starter for a 9 lap Race.

David Shaw, Falcon pulling to the infield on the warmup lap to be a non-starter. Tony Groves (Mornington Mazda/Valvoline) Mazda and Francois Habib, Commodore would share the front row for the start. Groves getting a great start to lead into turn 1 closely followed by Dean Camm's Corvette also starting well passing Francois Habib into the first corner, followed by John Ippolito (Allclass Promotions) Commodore, Ben McLeod Commodore, Damian Gambold Falcon, Cameron McKee (Truckrite/Ausfleet Retals) Falcon, and Graeme Gilliland (G&G Engineering/P&L Mechanical) Mazda, all putting on a good race with lots of position changes. Talbot in the Camaro put the pass on Graeme Gilliland, but then had a small "off" with Gilliland retaking that position. Camm and Habib had a battle for most laps with Cameron McKee making his way past Gilliland to go into 7th place. John Ippolito runs wide through the sweeper only to re-join at turn 7. Tony Groves would drive away from the field and take the win by 26sec followed by Dean Camm suffering with a smokey rear hub holding out a fast-finishing Francois Habib for 3rd, then followed John Ippolito, Ben McLeod, Damian Gambold, Cameron McKee, Graeme Gilliland, Charles Talbot followed by Craig Milvain (Taxbalance) Holden HQ.

Race 3 A sunny Sunday afternoon was to see 10 cars greet the starter for a 10 Lap Race.

Dean Camm's Corvette would not make the start though, leaving only 9 remaining. Tony Groves (Mornington Mazda/Valvoline) Mazda had the front row to himself, but a jumped start gave him a 5 sec penalty so he would lead into turn 1 closely followed by Francois Habib, Commodore and John Ippolito (Allclass Promotions) Commodore 3rd into the first turn. Cameron McKee (Truchrite/Ausfleet Rentals) Ford AU ran wide at turn 3 letting Ben McLeod, Commodore through into 4th position, Graeme Gilliland (G&G Engineering/P&L Mechanical) Mazda making a good pass on Damian Gambold, Falcon XD. Gambold, Ben McLeod and Graeme Gilliland having a great race together. Charles Talbot Camaro, would make a pass down the main straight on Graeme Gilliland, but Gilliland, better under brakes into turn 1, took the position back, Ben McLeod would make a pass on Damian Gambold on lap 5. Gilliland had a small "off", letting Chas Talbot though but Chas has a steering issue and retires the Camaro. After 10 Laps the class of the field, Tony Groves greeted the chequered flag to win by 29 secs, a 10 sec penalty leaving him still with a great win, followed by a consistent Francois Habib and John Ippolito for 3rd, then Ben McLeod, Damian Gambold, Graeme Gilliland, Cameron McKee, David Shaw, Falcon AU and Craig Milvain (Taxbalance), Holden HQ



7







Sports Sedan State Round 3 at Phillip Island May 14 & 15 2022

Unfortunately, the entry list for the PI state round was light on, with only 12 participating from the get-go with Qualifying on Saturday morning. One reason could be that the National Sports Sedan Round scheduled the week after left some deciding to miss out on the State round to avoid the tight 5-day turnaround required between these two rounds. Of course, the opportunity to be a part of the Supercar round made it even more enticing.

Even though the number of participants was not what we would normally expect, the event was a success, and it was a weekend of firsts for a few of our members. I have to mention that we had two entrants that joined us doing double duties in both Sports Sedans and their normal category of Improved Production. Adam Poole the IPRA champ from last year and the driver of the "Flying brick" who has made a name for himself year with his performances to date Craig Piergrosse.

The lead up to our qualifying session was challenging, with all eyes looking up at the heavens to decide on the type of tyre that would be needed to get the best result. Most elected to put on wets and a few were betting on a drying track and risked the slicks. Suffice to say there was a huge disparity in the lap times with as much a one-minute separating 1st from last.

Our pole sitter for race 1 was a first timer, who not only surprised us all, but surprised himself and was absolutely elated with this result. Congratulations to Cameron McKee in taking Pole Position for Race 1. John Ippolito remains consistent this year and took out 2nd place with Charles Talbot in fine form also this round taking third.





Race 1 on Saturday afternoon was dry and with conditions that were relatively normal to us all and slicks were the tyre of choice for us all except the two IPRA cars that were on the Yokohama AO50 they have to run in their class. Little did I know it, but sitting on the grid ready for a race start, a coolant fitting broke and coolant was pouring out and as I took off after the lights went out I thought I was on for a good race taking a few spots but by turn 1 I became a passenger when the coolant sprayed on my tyres and speared off at turn one ending my race. Having had a great start from 4th, Greg Lynch was leading by turn one and never lost that lead and took out his first ever Sports Sedan Race win with John Ippolito only .13 seconds behind after stalling at the start and battling with Stuart Eustice in the MARC car. Stuart took third place. Unfortunately, our pole sitter like myself had a DNF and his fairy tale start for the weekend was short lived. Dean Camm had a wheel issue which set him back in Race 1 to finish 8th. Not the usual spot we expect Dean to be.

The Ravage Team went to work on fixing the broken fitting in my Dodo mobile, which was in one of the most inconvenient places behind the engine. It was certainly not an easy job and when they had a good look back there, they decided to change another fitting as a safety precaution and keep the car well maintained and reliable. By Saturday afternoon Dodo and I were ready to mount an attack on Sunday Morning in Race 2. A beautiful sunny Sunday was ordered and delivered, with myself starting from the rear of grid in Race 2 alongside Cameron and just behind Dean, I felt I had a great car and was in the right headspace to do something good. I had a reasonable start, although not as good as Dean Camm who got to third by Turn 1 and leading the race at the end of lap 1 where I was having a dice with the everimproving Stuart Eustice. Stuart and I traded places for third in lap two coming up to first time race winner..

Greg Lynch. The three of us were three wide coming down the straight towards turn 1 and Stuart made another pass on me on the inside. After a couple of love taps from me which is very unusual for me as I am normally very protective of Dodo, I passed Stuart and headed towards my next target Greg Lynch. Unfortunately for Dean Camm, the issue with the wheel he had in race 1 came back and he lost a rear wheel which ended his day and round which Dean would like to forget. Cameron McKee our pole sitter from day one also had lingering issues that caused him to DNF race 2. I passed Greg Lynch on Lap 3 for the Race lead and just kept consistent pace. Meanwhile there was plenty of action behind me with Stuart putting a move on Greg for second place and John Ippolito storming up to and passing Greg for 3rd place. Charles Talbot the veteran and most experienced driver on the track also managed to beat Greg at the line by 0.03 seconds, wow, relegating Greg to 5th place for Race 2. All in all, a good race for all with action a plenty and my first race win at the Island.





The final and longest race of the weekend on Sunday afternoon had plenty of excitement for drivers and fans alike. Starting from Pole position for the race, I was beaten at the start by the MARC car of Stuart but managed to take him on the outside at Southern Loop and maintained the lead. There was a consistent gap from myself to Stuart the entire race and behind him the two commodores of Greg Lynch and John Ippolito along with the bullet like Camaro of Chaz Talbot were fighting for the last place of the podium for a number of laps.

John and Chaz, as in the last race overtook Greg finishing 3rd and 4th respectively but again not without some further excitement when Chaz tried an aggressive and late move on John at Honda and appearing to redress on the last lap of the race. The finishing order was a copy of Race 2 and although I was happy and won races two and three, my DNF in race 1 meant that I finished 5th for the round. Congratulations to Stuart Eustice for his round win ahead of John Ippolito in 2nd and Greg Lynch in 3rd.

Race 2 and Race 3 Podium:



As all drivers do, we all look forward to our next round to continue building the 2022 State series Sports Sedan story. As we are hosting the next State Series round at Sandown, we do not race. Our next event is back at this Iconic Phillip Island racetrack in late September. See you all there, stay safe and happy and let's see if we can get more Sports Sedans on the grid.

Francois







Sandown VSCRC Round 4, 12-14th August

We need your help

The next round of the State Series is the ASSA Vic run event at Sandown Raceway being Round four of the VSCRC on 12-14th August 2022 (note new date). We need helpers for the three days, particularly Friday. You do need a Working with Children permit and an official's licence. Please contact us (info@assavic.gov.au) if you are able to volunteer as it is the main fundraising event of the year for us.

Australian Sports Sedan Association (Vic) Club Championship - at; 14/5/2022

Class B -								
	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Total	
Name			Rouna 3	Round 4	Round 5	Rouna 6	Total	100
G. Gilliland	40	60						100
K. Stoopman C. Milvain	0	57						57
D. Johnson	0	37						0
G. Hume								0
	4001-6000cc							
Name	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Total	
C. Talbot	51	34	55					140
D. Camm	57	37	18					112
T. Groves	58	60	40					118
F. Habib P. Pennisi	53	56	40					149
A. Cook	0							0
A. Williams	0							0
R. Hislop	0							0
A. Nash	0							0
M. Robinson	0							0
S. Eustice	35		58					93
D. Tamasi	0							0
	ction Class				1	1	•	
Name	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Total	
R. Maclurkin (J)	Nound 1	Round 2	Rouliu 3	Round 4	Round 3	Round o	Total	0
R. Maclurkin (S)	16							16
J. Ippolito	59	60	59					178
G. Lynch	54	0	58					112
K. House	0		33					0
A. Parker	34							34
D. Shaw	0	36	54					90
M. Durbin	0							0
C. McKee	53	57	0					110
J. Angiolella	0							0
0	utright							
Name	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Total	
C. Talbot	42	30	51					123
D. Camm	54	37	15					106
P. Pennisi	0							0
J. Ippolito	53	52	55					160
F. Habib	48	57	40					145
G. Gilliland	25	45						70
S. Woodman	0							0
A. Parker	31							31
A. Williams	0							0
T. Groves	59	61						120
R. Hislop K. Stoopman	0							0
M. Robinson	0							0
D. Tamasi	0							0
R. Maclurkin (J)	0						1	0
R. Maclurkin (s)	11						1	11
S. Eustice	32		56					88
A. Nash	0							0
D. Shaw	0	29	46					75
G. Lynch	49	0	52					101
M. Durbin	0							0
C. Milvain	0	39						39
C. McKee	40	47	1					88
J. Angiolella	0							0



Exciting news!! We have **our next club road trip** booked for the Wednesday night 20th July at the prestigious headquarters of **Garry Rogers Motorsport**, 2/13 Kitchen Road,

Dandenong South. 6.30pm sharp and Pizza after. Please reply to info@assavic.com.au if you would like to come for catering purposes.





Garry Rogers Motorsport has its origins in 1963 when Garry Rogers began racing Appendix J Holdens. He then went on to race Sports Sedans during the late 1960s and the 1970s. In the mid-1970s Rogers got more serious, running a BDA Escort in Sports Sedans with some success, before moving onto an ex-lan Geoghegan Holden Monaro. Around this time, in late 1978, Rogers also moved into the Australian Touring Car Championship as a privateer in an ex-Bob Jane Holden Torana. He ran through until the end of 1979 in touring cars before turning his attention back to Sports Sedans, putting in a big effort in



the 1981 Australian Sports Sedan Championship driving a Holden Torana LX SS A9X Hatchback.





50 Year Anniversary Book order form:

Item	Price	Quantity	Total								
50th Year Anniversary Book (Soft Cover)	\$70 + GST		\$								
50th Year Anniversary Book (Hard Cover)	\$100 + GST		\$								
		Order Total	\$								
Name											
Email											
Address											
Address		***************************************									
(Postage will be advised on the	e order vou place)										



The Coca Cola Flyer

We were at the May 2022 Phillip Island state round, the Camaro, my son Daniel, and Laurie, and me. When the team manager, Laurie, started to talk about the rail crossing bridge on Montague St. South Melbourne. The bridge it seems has developed a considerable following on the internet, and has its own Facebook site, as Laurie went on to explain. The fame seems to be because of the considerable number of vehicles, busses, trucks, concrete trucks, etc. that misjudge the height clearance of the bridge, and become lodged under it. This reminded me of a story from the early 1970's

I was racing in the National Formula 2 category and had been using a trailer for transporting the race car. This was soon to need an upgrade, as I intended to move up into the F5000 category, and felt the need for a truck. I saw an advert that Lindsay Fox was selling some of his trucks at his depot in South Melbourne. I attended the sale and became the proud owner of a 1956 Ford furniture van. Speaking of Lindsay Fox, wouldn't it be great to organize a Sports Sedan Club visit to his excellent vehicle collection. I understand the collection is quite extensive and would be very interesting to our members. Back to my acquisition of the furniture van. It was a (faded) bright red 1956 Ford. The first of the overhead valve V8 engines, and quite possibly one of the first furniture vans Lindsay had bought. See photo. I climbed into my New S/H acquisition, fired it up, and proceeded out of the depot and along Montague St, past the Dunlop Tyre factory on the corner of Normandy St. As I approached the Monty bridge, I started to wonder how high was the roof of my new race car transporter. Not having a height measurement on the inside of the cab for me to see. Too late, I quickly found the Bridge was too low rather than my truck was too high. With a jolt my truck and I became a victim of the Montague Bridge. Fortunately, this was a weekend and there was not a lot of traffic (and no one taking photos for Facebook back then). I walked around studying my predicament. I then realized if I let some air out of the tyres I could reverse out and find an alternative route home. This was successful, and I continued on my way, and nobody knew, until I was foolish enough to tell Laurie when we were at Phillip Island, now you all know.

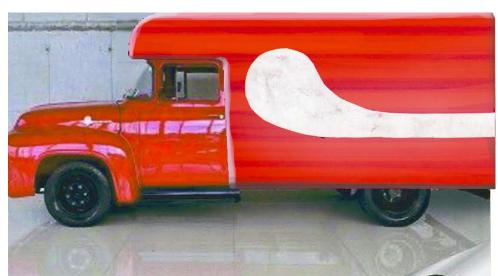
That van went everywhere but it really struggled with the hills. I would be down to first gear going up the Pretty Sally hill when going to Sydney. It would use a tank of fuel to the Ford factory on the Hume, and another tank to the Hume Weir race track. Clearly something had to be done. I acquired a 390 Louisville Ford petrol truck motor. Performed a rebuild and balance at Paul England factory in Pascoe Vale Rd. After this installation I replace the body with a one-ton lighter body. The Beg, and later the Lola fitted nicely, a bench, tools, a spare engine bolted to the floor. It could now double as transporter and accommodation. A larger fuel tank, and Pretty Sally was taken in top gear. Sydney was without a fuel stop and top gear all the way. At the truck stops the truckers would comment on the passing speeds. The Ford became a legend on the Highway. All the F5000 competitors had a truck or a bus fitted out for the purpose. On the highway after a race meeting was the only time I was faster than some of the other F5000 competitors. I remember Max Stewart parking his truck with the ramps down and the rear facing the track exit. He came off the track after the race, drove his Lola up the ramps, was able to stop before hitting the windscreen, shut the door and was off home early.

After these modifications etc. I was left with the complete and running previous engine. One day while going home along North Rd near the Brighton cemetery, I noticed a very early Ford passenger bus with smoke and steam emitting from the open bonnet. The owner was waving for me to stop, concerned that his bus, his wife, and all his worldly possessions would be lost in the fire. They were a young couple from Germany doing a tour of Australia. Unfortunately, the side valve Ford v8 engine had just expired. Ford has made their models largely interchangeable, the Louisville swapped for the 1956 engine, The 1956 engine would swap for the Side Valve. They were grateful and took the 1956 engine free to a good home. The only fault with this interchange ability I found with Fords was the position of the fuel line from the tank to the engine, which ran along the chassis beside the exhaust pipe. It was evident on many Ford models over the years. This would cause fuel vaporization on a very hot day. It was the only thing that would stop the Coca Cola Flyer, so named by Rowan Harmon after I painted a white circle on the original body in the hope of sponsorship. (That never eventuated). I hope you have found this informative

found this informative entertaining.

MORE NEXT TIME.

#12 Chas Talbot.



Precision National Sports Sedans latest

National Winton Round

It was an exciting Precision National Sports Sedan round at Winton Supercars, the crowds were massive, the weather was fantastic and the motorsport atmosphere was at its best!

Congratulations to Jordan Caruso on the round win with a lap record for Sports Sedans as well, second place to the consistent Steve Tamasi and an excellent third to Alex Williams from Tasmania. It was outstanding to have nearly every car finish the weekend and receive points in the National Championship. Full **pointscore** and current leaders on our website https://www.sportssedansnational.com.au/results

We have over 100 photos from the weekend now displayed under **Gallery** on our website https://www.sportssedansnational.com.au/gallery If you would like some of these in higher resolution please email back and we can send individually. Thanks to John Morris for the superb photographs and also a great four page article from Ph Island Round 1 in the **Velocity Magazine**. We were also fortunate to have all three races live on **Foxtel and Kayo TV** with some great racing coverage over two days.

Our next Round is at **The Bend OTR Supersprint** on 29-31 July and promises to be another exciting event with several national competitors from Round 1 having repairs completed plus a number of new entrants. At this stage we have 28 names on the EOI list, however if you have not informed us previously **and plan to enter please reply email** as we are needing to organise and book garages. Entry forms and details will be emailed out next week.

It was late notice just before Winton however **TV commentator Matt Naulty** emailed around a form to complete with details for commentary, we have attached this in a Word document if you could fill out and return in preparation for The Bend. It is a huge benefit to the TV commentary to know who you are and about your car, it also helps build the 'show' to the Supercars crowd at the event and live on TV around the country. Also informs the organisers more about us which is so important for our future.

Last item, we are organising individual **A4 size car posters** for you to order and have on display at the track or give away at leisure! More details to follow, we will need a photo and all of your driver and car details in due





Early photo of the Coca Cola Flyer with the Begg F5000



Sandown VSCRC Round 4, 12-14th August

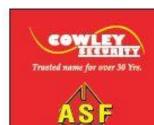
We need your help

The next round of the State Series is the ASSA Vic run event at Sandown Raceway being Round four of the VSCRC on 12-14th August 2022 (note new date). We need helpers for the three days, particularly Friday. You do need a Working with Children permit and an official's licence. Please contact us (info@assavic.gov.au) if you are able to volunteer as it is the main fundraising event of the year for us.









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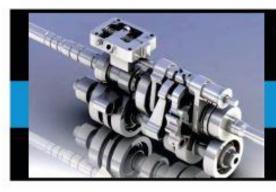




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