

CASTLEMAINE HOT ROD CENTRE

induction

The Voice of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre

Powering Castlemaine Breakthrough!



Powering Castlemaine

Getting facilities for our young people, our families and the elderly is now as easy as 1, 2, 3. Do your banking, use the phone, put your money where your mouth is.

Bendigo Bank
community



Bendigo communitytelco

www.bendigobank.com.au

Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre members mounted an information stand in Mostyn Street, Castlemaine on Thursday October 16 and November 21st and received enough pledges to take us past the trigger point for the official launch of the Powering Castlemaine Community Enterprise Scheme.

Our joint project with the Bendigo Bank – the Powering Castlemaine Community Enterprise Scheme – is about to swing into action. For the past several months Board members have been travelling extensively around the state visiting hot rod clubs to garner their support for the scheme in the form of pledges as required by the bank to support the scheme. Such support has been forthcoming in a positive manner from hot rod clubs generally, but we needed to reach 350 pledges for the bank to officially launch the scheme and it was proving slow going in reaching that number. However we had not been able to find a simple way to get access to members of the local community to garner pledges from them, apart from visits to service clubs and other local car clubs.

The easiest way to gain access to the local general public is via an information session in the main street. However you need to register with the local authorities for permission to undertake such exercises and it can only be carried out from certain sites within the shopping centre. The problem we had was that all the best times and dates to gain a spot were already booked out far in advance. In the end we decided to go for one of the less popular times as we had the feeling that

there was significant local public support for the project. Our chance came on Thursday October 16 when we set up our information stands in Mostyn Street Castlemaine for an all day information session. It was a perfect day weatherwise and it was enhanced by several street rods being parked in the nearby area.

To say that the response from the locals was fantastic is an understatement, it was magnificent. By the end of the day we had collected almost as many pledges as we had gained in total in the six months prior to that time, taking us past the 350 qualifying number in a single day! Our faith in the local Castlemaine community was more than vindicated. Needless to say the bank hierarchy were very impressed as were we. To make it even better the whole exercise also turned out to be a great social occasion for our members, many staying on well after their turn on the roster was completed.

A second information session in Mostyn Street Castlemaine was held on Friday November 21 during which almost another 100 pledges were gained. Another outstanding result. There will be an official launch of the Powering Castlemaine Community Enterprise Scheme before the end of the year.

Education Developments

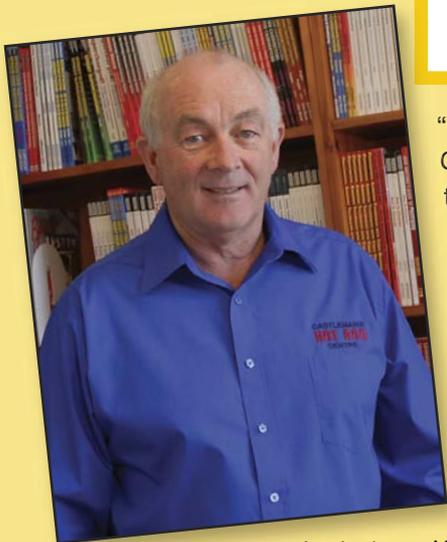
Negotiations with several education providers are progressing well and we expect to be able to make some major announcements on this aspect very soon. In the meantime we have been approached by Gerry Stow, a consultant working with Wodonga TAFE to investigate the possibility of instituting a hot rod and custom TAFE course that would result in participants gaining a certified accreditation at the end of their course. This TAFE college already has courses that train students in motorsports qualifications that they can then use with racing teams such as those that compete in the V8 Supercar series.

In conjunction with the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre, Gerry is currently surveying typical hot rod and custom based businesses to gauge their feedback on the requirements of such a course for the hot rod and custom market. If you have received one of these survey forms please fill it out and send it back to Gerry asap.

We will continue to work with all such bodies that approach us as we can see enormous potential for such training courses to be operated from the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre once it is established on its own site.

Marketing Image

Now that the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre Project is settling down into a tangible form it is time to start thinking about aspects of our marketing plan. Board members have recently been outfitted with dressy



submissions. Keep in mind that the successful image will need to be suitable for use on a wide range of products including shirts, signs, caps etc. Board members will select the best submission for development into a marketing motif and the winner will receive a free copy of the new Hot Rodding International from Graffiti Publications.

Post your submission to CHRC, PO Box 1080, Castlemaine 3450 or email it to info@castlemainehotrodcentre.com.au

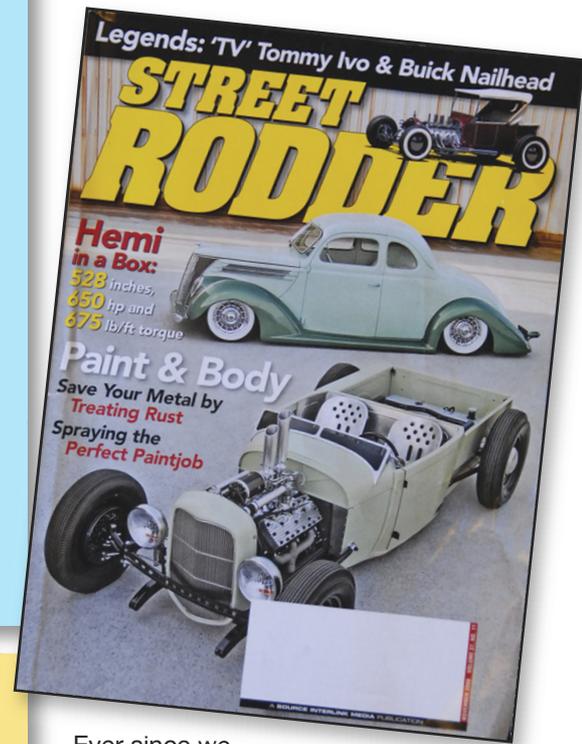


"Hot Rod Centre" shirts for use on Hot Rod Centre business and this has prompted us to investigate branded products that can be used to promote the Centre. We have our standard logo but recognise that a more elaborate form of motif is required for such promotional material.

Here's your chance as a CHRC member to contribute to its future development. Send us your idea for a promotional logo/motif for this purpose and we will pick a winner from the



USA Exposure



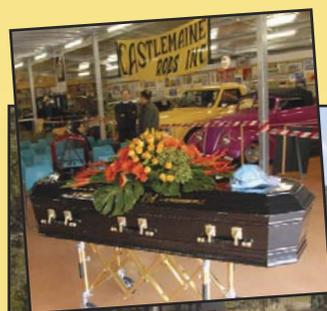
Ever since we embarked upon this project we have known it was a unique idea that would catch the imagination of communities all over the world and our vision is now being recognised overseas. The USA based Street Rodder magazine has a huge readership and influence in the American market and editor Brian Brennan devoted a recent editorial to the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre.



Vale Bill Mussett - Foundation Member

The past few weeks has been a trying time for local hot rodders with the passing of one of our Foundation Members, Bill Mussett. Bill had battled with cancer since December last year and despite some hopeful periods along the way when chemo-therapy appeared to have worked quite well, the terrible disease claimed his life on October 16, 2008. The funeral service was held at Hadfield's Hot Rods Museum at Bill's own request and there was a huge turn out to give him the best send-off possible.

Hot rodders from all over Australia attended the funeral and over 100 rods took part in Bill's last cruise through Castlemaine on October 22. The cortege passed through the centre of town with all the cars driving two abreast and his own black '32 Ford three window coupe following the hearse. It was a tremendous, moving tribute to Bill to see the entire town come to a standstill and pay their respects to a friend and fellow rodder.



Bill spent much of his working life as a full-time hot rodder, serving his apprenticeship at Thompson's Foundry in Castlemaine, then working at Diecrest Engineering before moving on to the Castlemaine Rod Shop where he worked for many years. In more recent times Bill worked briefly at Waddington's Street Rod Centre, before his illness inhibited his ability to work. He was a talented machinist and prototype developer who took great pride in his work, which was always of the highest standard.

Bill was a staunch supporter of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre project and played an integral role in getting the concept off the ground. He was also one of the major forces behind the very successful 75th Anniversary Deuce Rod Run held in Castlemaine in 2007. Moving tributes were offered during the funeral service by Con Soldatos, Leigh Charter, Rod Hadfield, Larry O'Toole and Bill's wife, Michel. He will be sadly missed by everyone from the hot rodding community.

CHRC on the TV News

A recent TV news spot by WIN Television highlighted the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre and how the project is progressing at the present time. This was a timely piece that went to air in the week before the information sessions in Mostyn Street Castlemaine and served very well to heighten local interest just at the right time. The interview came out of the blue as the TV crew were in Castlemaine to report on other news items and thought it would be a good idea to cover the Hot Rod Centre.

Interviews were recorded with Chairman, Larry O'Toole and Vice Chairman, Rod Hadfield. Mixed together with footage from Rod's workshop and museum it made for an interesting news story. Even though it was only a short piece it was well done and helped get our message out to the local populace. They in turn showed their support for the project by signing Powering Castlemaine Pledges in unprecedented numbers.



The Win TV news item went to air the week before the information session in Mostyn Street Castlemaine and served very well to heighten interest just at the right time.

Finally a Site for the Hot Rod Centre?

The Board of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre was recently approached by a local family to see if we would be interested in some land they have available that might be a suitable site for the Centre. While board members have previously inspected several sites around Castlemaine, and some of them would be suitable, all have had one or other aspect that could be a problem as the centre was developed.

We are pleased to announce that this latest potential site is easily the best so far. It is the right size, is extensively cleared already, has all services running right past or already connected to the property and it has access from three different roads. The Board have already made an initial inspection and we are currently undertaking discussions with the local council and planning authorities to assess its suitability from their perspective. If that is productive we will then settle down to more intense negotiations with the owners with a view to drawing up a memorandum of understanding.

While undertaking these inspections and council negotiations we have not entirely discounted two former potential sites and have even made a second inspection of one to make sure we haven't overlooked alternative ways that it might be developed to overcome a significant engineering requirement – a major bridge over a creek.

There is another site that will become available after the new freeway through Harcourt is completed, but we can't get access to this property until the project is completed, in about another six months time. This site is a farm property that was compulsorily acquired by Vicroads for the freeway, but a large proportion of which isn't needed once the freeway is completed. As it is currently a work site we won't be able to gain access for an inspection until it is no longer designated as a work site. This site is getting a bit far away from Castlemaine and services could be a problem, but we won't discount it entirely just yet.



Foundation Member Vacancy

The unfortunate passing of Foundation Member Bill Mussett triggers a process that we must undertake to find a replacement Foundation Member.

The constitution of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre Limited outlines this process in item 4.3.4/14iii) as follows: Foundation memberships can only be transferred with the approval of a simple majority of continuing foundation members, either by written notice or by a vote at an annual or extraordinary meeting of members.

Also item 4.3.4/15 states: Foundation members shall be entitled to nominate Directors to the Board for election on an annual basis.

Any member of the company can become a Foundation Member, subject to a vacancy becoming available, and you can nominate yourself or a fellow company member to fill this vacancy. Anyone interested in becoming a Foundation Member can obtain further information from current Board Members, or come along to the General Meeting on December 12 where the process will be an agenda item.

This Foundation Member and Board election policy was included in the constitution to ensure the Hot Rod Centre always remains a community enterprise based in Castlemaine and ensures continuity well into the future.

We'll Come to You

If you belong to a community group that might be interested in helping support the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre please contact us with a view to having our pledge team visit your organisation. We will be happy to attend a meeting to give a complete explanation of the Hot Rod Centre Project and how your organisation can participate in the Powering Castlemaine Community Enterprise Scheme through the auspices of the Bendigo Bank.

For more details contact Larry O'Toole (03) 5472 3653, Vicki Farrell (03) 5472 4116 or Rod Hadfield (03) 5472 3868.



General Meeting and Breakup

Friday December 12, 2008 is the date for the next General Meeting of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre Limited to be held at the Wesley Hill Hall, Pyrenees Highway, Castlemaine at 8pm.

Members will be informed of all recent progress on the Hot Rod Centre project at this meeting. The meeting will conclude with a light supper and Christmas breakup for all members of the Hot Rod Centre. Supper will be provided and drinks will be available for purchase, courtesy of Castlemaine Rods.