

## Model Auto Show Fires Up at Autoplex



**LEFT:** The gymnasium at the Etty Street Campus (soon to be Autoplex Castlemaine) proved very suitable for the Auto Model Show.

**BELOW LEFT:** Inaugural winner of the Tony Steiner Memorial Trophy was Peter Carpenter for his '32 Ford five window coupe.

**BELOW:** The People's Choice award went to this deep red '32 Ford three window coupe shown by Graham Phillips.



The 2019 Model Auto Show is done and dusted and was another great success. Just on 200 models were featured in the show together with a couple of special exhibits that added extra highlights to the show.

Extremely cold weather did adversely affect visitor numbers to some extent but not enough to be of major concern. The extra space available in the gymnasium meant everyone fitted in easily and it allowed the special attractions, like Phil Mune's running mini V8 engine, to be accommodated without any risk.

Alongside Phil's mini engines and Cobra sports car with running engine, were the local buildings created in scale by Lego building expert John Rutherford. Add in Glenn Rewell's latest metal scale model Fiat Topolini drag car and you have the complete package.

A new trophy was created for the show to be given to the model chosen by Tony Steiner's family in his honour. Tony participated in the first CHRC Auto Model Show last year and took home the Mayor's Choice trophy, but unfortunately passed away soon after that show. The family chose Peter Carpenter's blue '32 Ford five window coupe to be the recipient of the first Tony Steiner Perpetual Award.

For those who weren't able to be at the show and would like to see more, there is full coverage in issue 352 of Australian Street Rodding magazine.

### Winners Castlemaine Model Auto Show 2019

Honourable Mentions – these modellers exhibits received significant numbers of votes from other modellers and the general public;

Light Trucks: Peter Carpenter, Red F1 Pickup (won Best in Show 2018).

Heavy Trucks: Geoffrey Lowe, Dyers B Double and Barry Lugg, Blue Circle Southern.

Diorama: Ken James, Vantage Fuels Castlemaine Drag Strip.

Motorcycle: Darryl Pipkorn.

Military: Scott Taylor.

Pre 1948: Glenn Rewell, Ford A Model coupe.

1949-'64: Morris Customs (Andy), '57 Chevrolet.

1965+: Graham Phillips, Red Corvette.

Competition: Peter McDonald, Blue Pickup with Race Car and Andy Chew, Fiat Sports Sedan.

Mayor's Pick: Glenn Rewell, '36 Fiat Topolino Drag Car.

Modeller's Pick: Andy Chew, Green Mercury.

People's Choice: Graham Phillips, Red '32 Ford Coupe.

Tony Steiner Memorial Award: Peter Carpenter, Blue 1932 Ford Coupe.

Note that all Honourable Mentions and Winners were clearly highly deserved by the vote numbers recorded.

More pictures from the Auto Model Show appear on page 3.

# Chairman's Report 2018/2019

**Another year has passed and there has been some significant progress in achieving our goals. This is despite continuing frustrations with various aspects of our projects, particularly with regard to the former Castlemaine Secondary College senior campus site and the property at Gowar.**

A site inspection took place at the College site in September 2018 and this led to a meeting in Melbourne involving myself from the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre Limited, Mount Alexander Shire Council CEO, Darren Fuzzard, Workspace Australia representatives, Local Member Maree Edwards and the head of the Education Department Buildings Division. This meeting was successful in addressing the problem of access to the ETTY Street site and things have moved along since then. We are now in a position to sign a 15 year lease on the site in conjunction with the Shire and Workspace Australia, just as soon as the legal people give their approval and we are presented with the lease. In the meantime we have been supplied with a set of keys to allow us to access the site at any time so that we can begin our serious planning phases. Regional Development Victoria has become involved in the process and Council have lodged an Expression of Interest with them on our behalf for financial assistance to develop an overall Master Plan for the whole site.

Throughout this year we have received many valuable donations of material to use in Autoplex Castlemaine, the name the site will be known by once we are in residence. Those donations include everything from historic items for the Australian Hot Rod Heritage Centre to office furniture and equipment to assist us in setting up the basic functions of Autoplex Castlemaine.

Meetings and visits are ongoing with VACC, TAFE and other potential partner organisations and these will ramp up substantially once we are located at the site.

In March this year we facilitated and helped set up the photographic exhibition The Big White Dyno by Darron Davies that was staged in the Gymnasium at the college site during the Castlemaine State Festival. This exhibition was well patronised and several of our members contributed a superb amount of work to prepare the venue and dress up the immediate surrounds. This was a positive pre-cursor to what will be required and how good the outcome can be when we all work together at the site.

The Castlemaine Rotary Club have been following our plans for Autoplex Castlemaine and have stepped in to assist us with financial support to get ourselves established at the site. We are extremely grateful for this significant assistance and look forward to an ongoing relationship with Rotary as we fully develop Autoplex Castlemaine.

Turning our attention to the rural property at Gowar, I am happy to report that there has been some real progress there as well. Late in 2018 we were offered a house for removal from central Castlemaine. The owners of the house included generous financial support to allow the process to be completed and its relocation is imminent at the time of writing this report. There has been quite a process involved in gaining the necessary permits to move the house, but these are now almost all in place and we should see the move take place in the next couple of months.

At Gowar the house will be located in front of the shearing shed and hay shed with access off Talbot Lane. Once relocated and refurbished it is our intention to rent the house initially and use the return to service the remainder of the loan on the property. This will then mean the money from our Mount Alexander Community Enterprise Scheme with the Bendigo Bank can be redirected to the Autoplex Castlemaine project. My thanks to our Secretary Treasurer, Vicki

Farrell for supervising this house relocation project and following through on all of the requirements.

In July we will once again be staging the Model Auto Show that was so successful last year when staged at the Old Castlemaine Gaol. This time the show is to be held in the gymnasium at the College where the extra display space will be most beneficial to a greatly enlarged show with a better variety of content. Our Executive Officer, Kim Michelmore has done a great job of pulling this new attraction together for Castlemaine and we should see it go from strength to strength from here on.

Kim has also been active in organising the monthly CHRC Coffee Cruises that are now continuing through winter due to popular demand. If you haven't attended one of these cruises yet, I highly recommend them to you as a great way to enjoy a couple of hours on a Sunday morning with like-minded individuals and see some of the interesting aspects of our local area while taking your favourite car for a spin. The Castlemaine Coffee Cruises are normally held on the third Sunday of each month.

On reflecting what I have written so far, it is already evident that it has been a very busy year and set to ramp up even further in 2019/2020. Aside from the projects already mentioned we have been involved in discussions with the VACC and VicRoads on emission testing as a service to the specialty automotive industry Victoria-wide.

We have had preliminary discussions with the film producers who intend to use the property at Gowar for shooting the film "Glenrowan". Initially they were looking at early 2019 for this to take place but lack of funding for the film has meant it is postponed to late 2019, or more likely early 2020. If it does go ahead it will have a positive effect on our finances through the rental of the property and the film producers will leave their sets in place for us to further develop as a tourist attraction after the filming is completed.

As part of the projected activities at Autoplex Castlemaine we have also been co-operating with the VCAL students and teacher currently still located at the ETTY Street site and, as this financial year draws to a close, we have arranged for Peter Carpenter to establish a pinstriping course for these students at the site. This course will start very soon and will hopefully be the first of an extensive range of activities that we will conduct with the VCAL students.

Through this busy, transitional year we have often called on members to assist with operations and I wish to express the Board's appreciation for this help. No doubt there will be many more occasions when we need your assistance as we transition into Autoplex Castlemaine. It has already been a long road for our ambitious project, but we are finally on the cusp of achieving one of our major goals. Congratulations to everyone involved and thank you for your continued support.

Larry O'Toole.  
Chairman.  
CHRC Limited.



## More Photos from the Auto Model Show 2019

**RIGHT:** Bronwyn Machin presents Glenn Rewell with the Mount Alexander Shire Council Mayor's Choice award for his Fiat Topolino drag car.

**BELOW:** A tribute display honouring the memory of local model maker Tony Steiner. The perpetual award made by CHRC member Graeme Inwood and given in Tony's honour is at centre rear.



## Master Plan for Autoplex

Progress on finalising the lease on the ETTY Street campus of the Castlemaine Secondary College is ramping up now that the Mount Alexander Shire Council is in the final stages of the approval process. At the August meeting of the Shire Council submissions were tabled and two people spoke to their submissions at the meeting.

There were several very positive submissions lodged on our behalf, in particular from VACC and several other partner organisations and engineers. Work has already begun on a Master Plan for the site so that as soon as final approval goes through (probably September Council meeting) work on appointing a consultant to manage the master planning process can get under way.

## Gowar House Relocation

Moving the house from Berkeley Street Castlemaine to the CHRC property at Gowar is almost ready to occur. The protracted process of consolidating the titles of the property and gaining the necessary approvals for the relocation is now almost complete.

Final stages include the BAL appraisal (bushfire rating) and the planning permit application. The area around the house in Berkeley Street has been prepared in anticipation of the move and the contractors are ready to go as soon as approval is finalised. We already have approval for the septic treatment system to be installed at the Gowar site. The house will be located on the eastern side of the empty hay/machinery shed with entry off Talbot Lane.

**RIGHT:** The area in front of the house in Berkeley Street, Castlemaine has been cleared ready for the relocation to take place.

Kim Michelmore will be acting as Project Manager for the Master Planning operations, working in conjunction with Rebecca Dempsey and Jim Norris from Workspace Australia, David Leathem from Mount Alexander Shire, David Tripp from RDV (Regional Development Victoria) and Larry O'Toole, Chairman of CHRC Limited.

The Master Plan should be completed by the end of 2019 or early 2020 at which time the conversion of the complex into Autoplex Castlemaine will become reality. In the meantime a huge amount of behind the scenes work is under way to collate and organise materials and infrastructure that will be required once full access to the site is gained.



## Future Meeting Dates

Future meeting dates of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre Limited are as follows:

General meetings for 2019 are scheduled as follows: Unless advised otherwise, meetings will be at the Wesley Hill Hall, Duke Street (Melbourne Road), Castlemaine at 7:30pm. Proposed future general meeting dates will be:

6 September, 15 December (Cruise and Christmas break up), 20 March; AGM for 2020 will be on Friday June 26.

■ For further information call Chairman Larry O'Toole on 03 5472 3653 or Secretary Vicki Farrell on 0418 510 352.



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PO BOX 1080, CASTLEMAINE, VIC, 3450.

WEB: [www.hotrodcentre.com.au](http://www.hotrodcentre.com.au) Email: [info@hotrodcentre.com.au](mailto:info@hotrodcentre.com.au)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Preferred method of newsletter delivery:

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### SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US

Do you have an account with Bendigo Bank? Yes/No

Do you have your vehicle/s insured with Shannons Yes/No

Would you like a quote from Shannons Insurance? Yes/No

Are you interested in accessing the Club Permit System through CHRC? Yes/No

What skills/qualifications do you have that could assist us to achieve our aims? \_\_\_\_\_

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT:  Cash  Cheque  Credit Card  EFT

Individual member: \$100.00 p/a payable June 30.

Take advantage of our extended membership offers:

3 years: \$250.00  6 years: \$500.00  12 years: \$1000.00

Make cheque payable to: Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre Limited

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT:  Mastercard  Visa  Amex

Expiry date: / CCV:

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All information remains confidential.



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