



induction

The Voice of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre

Autopia 2022 Ready To Blast off!

The March Labour Day Long Weekend is set to be a wonderful time in Castlemaine as Autopia 2022 springs into life. Our theme for this year is Young Hot Rodders and The Future Of Hot Rodding. More than a dozen of our future hot rodders will be displaying their project cars in the main corridor of the trade training building from Saturday March 12 to Monday March 14.

One of the young hot rodders involved in this exhibition is Aaron Develyn, from Ballarat, who took on the role of co-ordinator of this aspect of Autopia and he has gathered together a wonderful collection of young enthusiasts and their current project cars, including his own. These are all hot rodders building their first project cars and several of them are female enthusiasts, all just as keen and capable as the males.

Adding to the young hot rodders theme is our guest pinstriper, Lincoln Camilleri, who also has his own project car included in the exhibition, and will be demonstrating his expert skills as an accomplished pinstriper during the event. Lincoln is in high demand for 'striping custom cars and this is a unique opportunity to see him up close at work with his paint pots and brushes.

Other attractions included in Autopia 2022 is the T bucket Cruise-in, back after a successful appearance at the 2021 event and ready to put on a static display in the car park on the Saturday, followed by their own cruise event around the Castlemaine area.

For those who love classic wooden speed boats we have a display of several first class examples showcasing the boat building craft as it was practised in the 1960s. Look out for Y block Ford engines, early small block Chevies and some interesting inline powerplants as well. It looks like there will be at least seven of these wonderful boats on display.

On Sunday only, March 13, the Castlemaine Model Show will be held as part of Autopia 2022. Each year this show gets better and once again it will have several sections; pre-'49 hot rods, customs and street machines and the ever-popular model trucks, plus other special exhibits. Who will win the Tony Steiner Memorial award this year?



ABOVE: Our guest pinstriper for 2022 is Lincoln Camilleri, shown here striping a sunshade.

BELOW: The T Bucket Cruise-In is returning as part of Autopia 2022. They will be on display on Saturday.



Autopia 2022 Ready To Blast Off (continued)

Complimenting the Model Show will be a display of billycarts, highlighting the wonderful history of billycart racing in Castlemaine and acting as a promotional opportunity for the Castlemaine Billycart Challenge.

Local musicians have the chance to get involved too with a live music stage available all weekend. On Sunday night that stage will be home to The Milkshakers band as our rock and roll dance gets under way from 8:00pm. This is a new feature for 2022 and sure to be a big hit with the rock and roll dancers. The rock and roll dance will be staged in the Auto Trade room where the whole floor will be available for dancing. A light supper is included and there will be tables and chairs set up in the corridor adjacent to the Auto Trade room.

During the opening hours of Autopia, 10:00am to 4:00pm, there will be coffee and food available outside the northern doors of the trade training building. For March the usual Castlemaine Coffee Cruise will be brought forward one week to coincide with Autopia and, after a short cruise around the district the destination for the cruise will be Autoplex Castlemaine, giving participants the opportunity to visit the Autopia Exhibition as part of their cruise.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to Autopia 2022, please invite all your friends and family to attend, admission is only \$5.00 per adult.



ABOVE: The March Coffee Cruise will be brought forward one week to coincide with Autopia over the Labour Day long weekend.



LEFT: The Castlemaine Auto Model Show will be held at Autoplex on Sunday March 13 in conjunction with the Autopia Exhibition.

BELOW: Greg Carr has organised several wooden speed boats for a display as part of Autopia 2022. This is one of his own classic wooden boats named "Nova" that features a 327 Chevy engine.



ABOVE LEFT: Aaron Develyn is the chief co-ordinator for the Young Hot Rodders "Future of Hot Rodding" display at Autopia where he will be including his own Model A Ford channelled roadster that features a Ford Y block engine.

LEFT: "Stormy" is another of Greg Carr's classy wooden speed boats, this one with Y block Ford engine, that will be on display at Autopia.

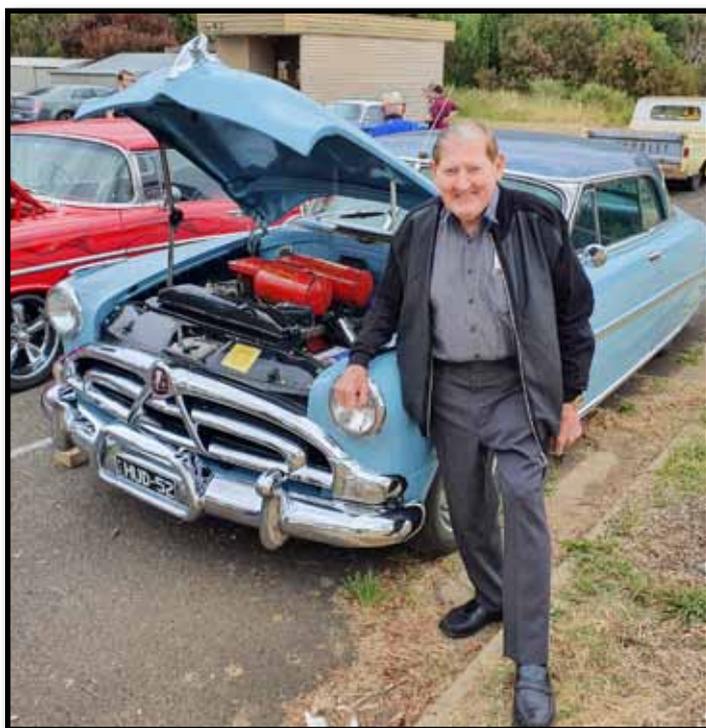
Special December Coffee Cruise and Break Up

The CHRC December Coffee Cruise and Christmas break up was memorable for a couple of outstanding features, not the least of which was the attendance of motor racing legends Norm Beechey, Jack "Fizzball" Collins, who drove Norm's cars at the drag races in the 1960s, and former Fuel Altered drag racer, Jimmy Walton joined in the fun and shared stories of the old days of competitive motor sport to the delight of cruise participants. Everyone enjoyed some light banter with these accommodating personalities, adding a real highlight to the Christmas break up. Norm came along in his rare 1952 Hudson Hornet coupe with Twin H Power under the bonnet, a similar car to his very first vehicle when he gained his driver's licence.

Another highlight for the attendees was the special barbecue that featured good quality snags and onions, plus egg and bacon burgers that were served up in hot, toasted Turkish rolls, followed by coffee from Dazlyn Coffee and a variety of muffins if you desired. Showery weather deterred some from attending but most of the rain bypassed Autoplex and by lunchtime it was a nice day.

All three special guests were impressed by the Autoplex development and keen to see it succeed.

RIGHT: Motor racing legend, Norm Beechey with his 1952 Hudson Hornet at the CHRC Christmas break up at Autoplex in December.



Gowar Property News

After months of intensive work, particularly by Pearl Kidman and Vicki Farrell, the Gowar house relocation and renovation is right on the cusp of completion. The interior is now ready for occupation, all painted throughout and new floor coverings laid, thanks to the generosity of CHRC member Simon Carr.

All that remains for completion is to close in the underside of the house to prevent ember attack in the event of a bushfire, paint the outside window frames and the east and west walls, plus fit three metal flyscreens, two of which were damaged and one missing altogether.

We need to make some changes to the water tanks so that one can be dedicated for fire brigade access in the event of bushfire and fitted with the required outlet.

Ray Smart, our long-term lessee of the property for grazing, has decided not to renew his lease, but negotiations with a replacement lessee are underway and should be completed by the time you read this newsletter.

The CHRC has also been approached by film makers to use the property and Autoplex later this year to shoot a feature film. This looks set to go ahead in July, 2022. Another major concert type event is mooted for late 2023, subject to the promoter gaining all the necessary permits to stage such an event on the Gowar property.

Recent movements in the property market have seen the value of our rural property rise sharply, particularly now that the house is in place and finished. It is now a very valuable asset for the CHRC Limited.

RIGHT: Floor coverings are now completed and the inside of the house essentially ready for occupation.



NEXT MEETING
March 4, 2022
at Autoplex
Castlemaine
Please attend and
get involved with
Autopia 2022.

Future Meeting Dates

There will be a General Meeting of the Castlemaine Hot Rod Centre Limited at Autoplex on Friday March 4, 2022. This meeting will be devoted to fine-tuning arrangements for the Autopia Exhibition. The next AGM to be held at Autoplex Castlemaine on Friday, June 24, 2022.

Future meeting dates will be decided by the Board subject to COVID regulations, but are typically March, AGM in June, September and December (with Christmas break-up).

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

Autoplex News



The Planning Application for the redevelopment of Autoplex has been lodged with Mount Alexander Shire for some time and has almost reached its climax. There has been one objection to our plans and a hearing is scheduled with councillors on March 1 to address this objection, then it will go to the next Council meeting for a decision.

Working Bees are ongoing at Autoplex, mainly concerned with maintenance and cleaning. The Bluebird exhibition has been successfully rehung with secure pins to prevent the panels falling off the wall. Much cleaning of leaves and debris from the rooves has been completed, likewise with drainage gutters around the buildings after recent heavy rains clogged them with leaves and gravel. Donated tools and equipment has all been categorised and stored in a more logical manner making it easier to access when our volunteers arrive each Thursday afternoon between 4:00pm and 6:00pm. New and existing members are welcome to join this working group at any time and help to ease the burden.

Castlemaine Rods is now using the meeting room in the gymnasium building for their monthly meetings and have their recently refurbished barbecue trailer stored on site as well. Sunday April 3 Castlemaine Rods is having a goth Anniversary of the Deuce Show and Shine at Campbells Creek Recreation Reserve and the Castlemaine Lions Swap Meet on the Camp Reserve is scheduled for the same day. No excuses for nothing to do in Castlemaine over the next month!

Rotary are currently assessing their storage requirements with a view to making better use of the space we have allocated for them at Autoplex and they expect to start rearranging things very soon.

Several other community groups have approached the CHRC seeking storage opportunities and the board gives all of them due consideration

while we await the commencement of redevelopment works.

Right now all effort is being expended on getting Autopia up and running but always with a view to organising other possible events in the future. One such event that has gained support is a seminar on the engineering certification requirements for street rods and modified vehicles. Early planning is to have one or more VASS engineers conduct the seminar at Autoplex and to make it a booked-and-paid-for exercise with lunch and refreshment breaks throughout the day. It could even be a two day event, subject to further discussions with the engineers involved and the breadth of topics to be covered.

Projected dates for the engineering certification seminar is currently September/October 2022. As the concept develops we will publicise more details with specific dates and costs involved.

Boutique Accommodation

Know someone who needs accommodation for Autopia over the Labour Day long weekend? Castlemaine Boutique Accommodation are keen to help. See contact details below.

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CASTLEMAINE
BOUTIQUE · ACCOMMODATION



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PO BOX 1080, CASTLEMAINE, VIC, 3450.

WEB: www.hotrodcentre.com.au Email: info@hotrodcentre.com.au

Name: _____

Address: _____

Occupation: _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Email: _____

Preferred method of newsletter delivery:

Email Post

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

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Comments/suggestions: _____

All information remains confidential.

