

Corvette Club



South Australia



JUNE 2024 Newsletter

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CORVETTE CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

PO BOX 230 FINDON SA 5023

www.corvetteclubofsouthaustralia.com.au

SISTER CLUBS

CORVETTES WEST
California USA

LONE STAR CORVETTE CLUB
Southern Texas USA



MEETINGS - Held on the first Wednesday of every month at the Glenelg Baseball Club, Anderson Ave, Glenelg North at 8pm

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION Newsletter will now only be distributed via email. If you have a change of address please advise the Membership Officer.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

due by 1st January each year	NEW	RENEWAL
Financial Member	\$85.00	\$80.00
Associate Member	\$20.00	\$20.00
Country Member	\$40.00	\$40.00

BANK DETAILS for Direct Debit

BSB 105 900 Account 9543 73840

CONDITIONAL REGO Inspections are no longer required. However, if you need a new Log Book, they are \$10 each.

The Corvette Club of South Australia Incorporated and its committee, is not responsible for statements (excepting their own) which may appear in any publication of the Corvette Club of South Australia Inc. newsletter, nor for the integrity of individuals buying or selling goods or services. We welcome the contribution of newsletter articles from members.

Note: Contributions may be edited for reasons of space.

The Newsletter Editor has the right of refusal to publish.



COMMITTEE

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VICE PRESIDENT

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Lynda McBride—0408 085 566

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eagles93@adam.com.au

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Peter McBride—0417 857 153

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CLUB HISTORIAN

Gerry Brine—0427 585 064

Auxiliary Committee Members

Rob McConnell—0408 820 819

Tony Beer Smith—0417 851 774

Goof Katzorke—0417 869 368

Neil (Wombat) Portlock—0413 009 723

Presidents Report: by Sean



Greetings all. It looks like May has been relatively quiet after the hectic April that we had. Most cruises have finished, including Zippel Cruises. It looks like the many coffee and cars type shows are still prevalent though. Ross and Arthur took Prodigy and C36 out to a cars and coffee morning now that they are both registered through the clubs Conditional Registration scheme.

We had 30 people out to the 'Meet the Jellesma's' dinner at the Cruising Yacht Club North Haven on the 4th. Peter and Wendy were delighted to catch up with club members on their way to Mt Gambier. Peter also had his 454 powered 1972 C3 judged by the NCRS experts in Perth recently and received a Second Flight status. The First Lady and I have returned from our annual houseboat cruise and will be in detox for the remainder of this month.

It appears that the C8 market has taken a bit of a turn too. All of a sudden there is a glut, with new cars being advertised on Carsales.com by dealers at lower prices than the flippers are asking. It has been rumoured that cars destined for Britain have been sent to Australia instead because of a regulation hiccup. It has also been reported that dealers are having issues moving the new Z06's with the \$440,000 price tag. GMSV dealers are now ringing people that were on the "10 year waiting list" after 1 year. If you want to organise a dinner or club run give our friendly Events Manager Serge a shout and have a word with him, the club calendar has some empty spots in June and July, apart from the mid-year dinner on the 26th July.
Sean.

Peter Jellesma's pride



Questions with Answers

The Committee has implemented a question and answer strategy.

If you have any questions that are keeping you up at night about the running of the club, please approach any of the Committee members with that question.

You can send it on an email to the Secretary, or even just write it on a piece of paper.

The Committee will formulate a correct answer and that answer will be promulgated to the club members, via newsletter and general meeting.

This way a correct answer is given, and the entire club including the committee, can learn something new along the way.

The only stipulation is that you put your name to the question. We will only answer bona fide questions, from bona fide members.

The published answer will not have your name attached, unless you specifically want it to be.

Prez Sean.

CLUB SPONSORSHIP



Do you know of an organisation, business or an individual that would like to be involved with and join our Corvette community?

Our club is always looking to build mutually beneficial relationships with the wider community of motoring enthusiasts and has a range of sponsorship options available.

We have some exciting opportunities coming up over the next few years with our club's 50th anniversary and the 2027 Corvette Nationals.

For further information contact

Public Officer: Peter Mourdoukoutas on 0402 447 688

CORVETTE CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC .

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

General Meeting: 1/5/24

Meeting Opened: 8:00 pm

Present: As per sign in sheet

Total Attendees: 51

Apologies: Ray Preston, Gary & Cathy McPhee, Steve Bryers, Maelyn Batchelor, Karen McConnell, Graham Townsin, Dave Schrapel, Serge Giacomelli, Kevin Nagel

Visitor and New members: Gary Dunn, '65 C2

Minutes of Last General Meeting read true and correct.

Moved: - Dale Goldsmith

Seconded: - Peter McBride

Treasurer's Report: Term Deposit to 20th October **\$51,887.97**

General Account:	Balance as at 1 st April	\$24,531.87
	Income	\$1,039.60
	Expenses	\$3,569.41
	Closing Balance 30th April	\$22,002.06

Raffles APRIL	Income	\$322.60
	Expenses	(\$461.00)
	Heart Kids profit/(loss)	(\$138.40)

Heart Kids from 1st March 2024 **\$54.90**

Membership Draw Prize: MAY \$40

Moved: - Jemma

Seconded: - Jim Dornan

Secretary's Report: Bank SA Statements, NSW Corvettes April/May N/L. Emailed N/L from QCC & Corvettes West USA. These have been onforwarded to members by email. Other emails sent; CCSA May N/L in 2 editions.

Conditional Registration: 1 new '86 C4, & Arthur Hasse's C36 (1st ICV to go on conditional Registration.)

Membership:

Full & Life members: 224 Associates: 81 **Total: 305**

Merchandise:

Shirelee advised:- Winter Warmers in next month. Beanies, Scarves, Jackets and Knits. Pipa and Eva in the Women's range.

Newsletter: Newsletter divided into 2 editions for May, due to amount of content. Stuart thanked Andrew Catford for his Canberra write up. Always happy to receive interesting articles.

Events:

Past:

Easter: - Not the Nationals in Canberra. Great weekend!

7/4: Palmer Run. Good feedback, 15 Vettes took part.

13/4: Strathalbyn Show n Shine & BBQ. 8 Corvettes Turned up

21/4: Collingrove Hill Climb. 12 cars came to watch &/or take part.

Future:

4/5:- Club Dinner at CYC. Jellesmas coming from WA. Over 20 booked so far. Re Sean Hayter.

CORVETTE CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC .

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES *Continue.*

No run booked for May at this stage.

22/6:- Underground Dinner at Little Hampton. Fully Booked. Re Serge Giacomelli.

No run booked for June at this stage

20/7:- Bocce Challenge re Serge, 0418 409 560. Details TBC

26/7:- Xmas in July at Windsor Hotel. Book with Maelyn 0498 187 148.

Web Master: Added May N/L, Photos from "Not the Nationals, Palmer Run, Strathalbyn Run, Events Calendar, Rolf's Car of the Month.

Public Officer: Contact Peter Mourdoukoutas if you are interested in sponsoring the club or know someone who might be interested.

General Business:

NSW Nationals. Neil Portlock mentioned that if you are planning on going, you need to phone the motels direct to book accommodation. But you need to say you are with the Corvette Nationals group. They seem to be calling it Corvette Easter Nationals, even though it is not at Easter.

Sean mentioned that the Show n Shine for our club Nationals in 2027 is likely to be at Wigley Reserve.

Membership Draw: Member 96, Scott Marston. Not present, so it jackpots to \$60 for June.

Raffle prize winners: Peter Bartlett, Framed Corvette Photo, Andrew Harris, Favourites Chocs. David Daw, relinquished his prize. Tim Epton, Matchbox Car. Andrew Catford, fragrance. Lynda McBride, Clinique goodie bag.

Meeting Closed: **8:25 pm**

Recorded By: Lynda McBride

Date: 1/5/24

Club Events Guidelines

As Events Coordinator. I know everyone is busy from month to month with friends and family commitments etc, but we are always looking for ideas from club members involving runs, dinners, weekends away or any other events as a social outing.

The clubs aims at holding two events per month (usually 1 run & 1 dinner); so please contact me to assist planning your ideas.

The structured events will then be published in our monthly newsletter and club website for all to be made aware of dates and details .

Regards Serge

Upcoming Events 2024

JUNE

Wednesday 5th @ 8PM - CCSA general meeting Glenelg Baseball Club
Anderson Ave.,
Glenelg North

Sunday 9th Monthly club run - Lunch 12.30pm at the Wellington Hotel
Depart McDonalds Darlington 10.00am sharp
Bookings essential by Wednesday 5th June.
Contact Lynda McBride 0408 085 566

Saturday 22nd @ 6.30PM - The Underground Dining Experience
Being held at the Great Eastern Hotel
Adelaide Rd., Littlehampton
Contact Serge Giacomelli - Ph.0418 409 560
[FULLY BOOKED](#)

JULY

Wednesday 3rd @ 8PM - CCSA general meeting at Glenelg Baseball Club
Anderson Ave.,
Glenelg North

Sunday 7th Monthly club run - Gladstone in Mid North
Booyoolie Brew Hotel—Buffet lunch and High Tea \$25.00 per head.
Meeting at Bolivar OTR 9.30am. Leaving 10.00am sharp.
Let Graham and Debbie Johns know. Ph; 0434 148 446
See Newsletter advert for more detail. (Next page)

Saturday 20th @ 4PM -Inaugural Bocce Challenge and Dinner
Being held at the Campania sports & Social Club
Famechon Cres., Modbury North
Contact Serge Giacomelli - Ph. 0418 409 560

Friday 26th @ 6.30PM - Christmas in July
Being held at The Windsor Hotel
Albert Room
North East Rd.,
Klemzig
Contact Maelyn Bachelor - Ph.0498187148

CLUB RUN TO WELLINGTON HOTEL for LUNCH

SUNDAY 9th JUNE (LWE)

Depart McDonalds Darlington 10:00 am sharp.

Travel via Meadows, Strathalbyn.

Lunch 12:30 pm

Bookings essential by Wednesday 5th June.

Contact Lynda McBride 0408 085 566



CORVETTE RUN TO BOOYOOLEE BREW – GLADSTONE JULY 7TH 2024

Owned by Corvette members Teresa & Shawn Adams

Main Meal Buffet normally \$40.00 per head.

For the Members on the day \$25.00 per head.

Normally used for Weddings, Engagements, Birthdays ETC.

Gourmet Sandwiches including a range of Gluten Free

Booyolee Brew Sausage Rolls, Booyolee Brew Mini Quiche

Booyolee Brew Curry Balls Booyolee Brew smoked Salmon on a bed of Avocado on Turkish Bread Bites Booyolee Brew Pizza cut into small squares. Pies and Pasties.

Followed by High Tea Cakes

Tea and Barista coffee available for \$5.00 per Mug.

Beer, Wine Spirits available @ Bar Prices

Leaving OTR Bolivar 10am sharp

Let Graham & Debbie know if you are coming 0434148446



EDITOR NEEDS YOUR HELP 😊

Hey, I'm always looking for members old and new to send me write ups and photos of their Vettes for a "Car of the Month" feature.

I'm also needing members to provide write ups and photo's from any club runs and dinners. Your help here is always appreciated.

Lastly, I'm always on the lookout for any "entertaining" fun photo's of members that we can publish without being sued.

Articles and photos can be emailed to me at:

sturuthvandoorn@gmail.com

**I'm no cook but man
can I stir the pot**



**Tickets available at our
upcoming meetings**

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"Lucky Envelope"**



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Club Merchandise

2024 Winter Range



Adults Fleece Varsity Jacket FL11 - Mens XS – 3XL \$70

Poly/Cotton Fleece, 340gsm--85% Polyester, 35% Cotton Fleece. Heavy ribbed collar, cuffs & waist band with contrast strips. Two front welt pockets. Press stud front closure. Winning spirit. Mens/Unisex.

Sizes: S-3XL.

Colours: Black/White, Royal/White, Red/White, Navy/White, Reg/Gold, Bottle/Gold, Bottle/White, Navy/Sky

Art Leather Baseball Jacket - Mens \$180 / \$220 w Back Logo
 400gsm Wool/Polyester/Acrylic/Nylon/Viscose. Lining: quilted polyester taffeta. Sleeves: PU Leather. Full front interlined for reduced creasing
 Two hand pockets with snap closure and one internal pocket.
Sizes: S-5XL.
Colours: Black/White. Grey/Marle. Red/White. Maroon/White, Navy/White Royal/White



Olympus Soft Shell Vest- \$95

Outer 95% polyester 5% elastane. Inner 100% polyester bonded fleece. Light water repellent and wind resistant finish

Mens 1515 XS - 5XL. Ladies 2515 Sizes 8 – 24

Colours: Black, Navy, Slate, Royal

Roll Up Beanies - Unisex - \$22

Acrylic Knitted. 70gm weight 21.5cm H x 20cm W.

8cm Roll-Up

Sizes: One Size

Colours: assorted colours available

Cable Knit Scarf SCF02 - Unisex: \$27

100% Acrylic 168gsm knit with cable row feature.

110cm x 18cm at 168gm..

Sizes: One Size

Colours: available in Black, Charcoal, Navy, Stone





Hosted by NSW Corvette Car Club

28th March 2025 – 31st March



Corvette National Convention

REGISTRATION FORM

First Name:

Surname:

Postal address:

Phone (home).....Phone (Mobile).....

BRINGING YOUR CORVETTE/S (please circle) YES/ NO

How many vehicles to be included in this registration?

Club Membership origin:

CORVETTE DETAILS

(If multiple, please copy this form and submit additional specifications)

Model.....Year.....Colour..... Rego..... Is your Vette to be judged? (circle) YES/ NO

Category (please nominate your category)..... Original (0-3 mods includes NCRS)

Personal (4 -6 mods)

Modified (7 + modifications)

ADDITIONAL ENTRANT (Partner)

First name:

Surname:

Any dietary requirements?

ENTRANT ONLY: Convention shirt (please circle size)

Sizes: S M L XL XXL XXXL XXXXL

One shirt per entrant is included in the convention bag ADDITIONAL convention shirt (please circle)

Sizes: S M L XL XXL XXXL XXXXL

Payment Details			
	Payment	Quantity	Total
Entrant	\$ 325.00		\$
Additional Person	\$ 275.00		\$
Additional Shirt	\$ 50.00		\$
Additional Port	\$ 20.00		\$
Total payment Due:			\$

Direct deposit made to: NSW Corvette Car Club

Direct deposit to BSB: 112- 879 Account: 400189050

Account Name 2025 CNC

Reference CNC25_Your_Surname

Completed form, return to sec@nswcorvettes.com.au



NSW Corvette Car Club will host the Corvette National Convention in 2025



By taking the 2025 CNC into the heart of the regional NSW towns of Parkes and Forbes, in some small way we can assist families of the floods that occurred in the region in November 2022. The Lachlan River rose to nearly 10.8 metres at its peak. Many homes were destroyed, families experienced loss of belongings, loss of livestock and much more. Homes were taken from their footings and were washed down the river.

The town of Parkes was part of the colonial expansion of the early 19th century, the town was founded in 1862 as a reef and alluvial gold centre, originally called Bushmans after a prominent local mine owner. It was renamed for Sir Henry Parkes, a state premier, in 1873, was proclaimed a municipality in 1883.



Parkes is a commercial centre for the sheep, grain, fruit, pig and poultry farming area of the Western Slopes region. It is also a rail junction on the Newell Highway, with air connections to Sydney 298 km, southeast.

Gold mining in the area ceased in 1947.

Industries in the region include steel fabrication works, sawmills, joineries and agricultural machinery plants. One of the world's largest 64 metres bowl-shaped radio telescopes, operated by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, is at Alectown 25 km north. The annual Parkes Elvis Festival, celebrating the life and music of Elvis Presley, has been held in January every year since its inception 8 years ago.

With the presence of the nearby Parkes Observatory, Parkes has had an important role in the scientific community. In addition to local research conducted at the radio telescope, Parkes scientists have assisted NASA for several missions as a Southern Hemisphere relay and communications station. The movie *The Dish* was based somewhat loosely on the role the telescope played during the 1969 Apollo 11 Moon landing. *The Dish*, although set in Parkes, was largely filmed in Forbes' historic precinct. This is due to very few historic buildings remaining in Parkes.

Itinerary

Friday 28th March 2025 – Day One – Welcome

Registration - 11.00am – 5.00pm
Bushmans Conference room within Bushmans Motor Inn
9-13 Peak Hill Road
Parkes.

Welcome, Meet and Greet – 6.30pm – 10.30pm – **Canapes & Cash Bar**
Bushmans Conference room within Bushmans Motor Inn
9-13 Peak Hill Road
Parkes.

The National Presidents' meeting will take place at 4pm.

Saturday 29th March – Day Two

Breakfast – Parkes Rotary to provide BBQ at the Bushmans Motor Inn

Show 'n' Shine – Parkes Showground 8:30 am–3:30 pm

Parkes Showground
Cars parked by 9.00am.
Food trucks at the venue for Lunch at your own expense

Saturday alternative to the show & shine.

An interesting and entertaining tour with local guide Roel, who sounds like a bit of a character. This tour is by bus and takes approximately 1.5 hours. The tour will take in local attractions with commentary.

Tour time : 9.30 am - 11 am.

Following this, there is time to check out the local shops in Parkes and get your lunch at any of the cafes, clubs, restaurants, pubs etc in town.

On returning to the bus, a visit to the Elvis museum, Henry Parkes museum and the gardens will follow. Entry fee of \$20(covers both Museums). Returning to hotels by approximately 3.30 pm.

Saturday Night–Dinner

Country Style Roast Buffet @ Parkes Showground.

Sunday 30th March 2025–Day Three

Breakfast – Parkes Rotary to provide BBQ at the Bushmans Motor Inn

Today we'll take a leisurely 'Observation' cruise to Forbes.

Once at Forbes we'll be visiting a local Car Museum. A short drive back into Forbes and enjoy 'Pizza in the Park' for our lunch break. Locals will be given the opportunity to inspect our beautiful Corvettes.

Leaving Forbes, we'll drive directly north, through Parkes and then onto 'The Dish'.

Upon arrival back to Motels, there will be time to relax and enjoy a drink with old and new friends.

Gala dinner–6.30pm

The 'Gala Dinner' will be held downtown at the Parkes Services Club. Drinks will be available to purchase from the bar.

The Show'n' Shine awards will be presented along with the auctions and raffle winners.

Parkes Services & Citizens Club Co-Op Ltd
9-17 Short Street, Parkes NSW 2870
Bus transfer from Accommodation to Venue

Monday 31 March 2025

Breakfast at one of the local Cafes

Time to pack your Corvettes, say **farewell**, and make the safe journey home.

Rooms have been secured at 4 northern Parkes Motels. Bushmans, Northern Parkes, Parkes International and Station.

Buffet breakfasts are available only at the Parkes International and Station Motels (Additional cost).

You may choose to have a buffet breakfast at these Motels whether you're staying there or not. But, you will need to book well in advance.

The Parkes Rotary Club will be cooking up breakfast at the Bushmans Motel, Saturday and Sunday morning.

Breakfast – Bacon/Egg Roll
Bacon/Sausage Roll
Juice

Tim's coffee van will be on site to provide your morning kick start (coffee).

Off street parking for car trailers is available at: Bushmans (6), Northern Parkes (4) and Parkes International (3). For confirmation on availability of trailer parking, please contact: **Peter Eldred: 0407 709 854**

Accommodation— Please contact the site directly to book

Bushmans Motor Inn (Fully Booked)
9-13 Peak Hill Road
Parkes
PH: 02 6862 2199 or 0426 364 606 (Maeve)

North Parkes Motel
54-56 Peak Hill Rd
Parkes
Ph: 02 6863 4333 (Leanne or Andrew) or 0422 408 269

Parkes International (Fully Booked)
18-30 Peak Hill Road
Parkes
Ph: 026862 5222 (Bree or Tom) or 0456 308 837
Phone bookings Preferred, call between 4.30pm - 7.00pm EST

Station Motel
82 Peak Hill Rd
Parkes
Ph: 02 6862 8444 (Samara or Jason) or 0437 970 193
Phone bookings Preferred, call between 4.30pm - 7.00pm EST

Budget Hotels

Moonraker Motor Inn
444 Clarinda Street
Parkes
PH: 02 6862 2355 - Muhammed

Apollo Motel
62 Peak Hill Road
Parkes
PH: 02 6862 3388 - Andrew

2025 CNC Co-Ordinator	Harry Turner	0409 409 599
Club President	Jeff Wilson	0478 228 899
Vic President	Peter Eldred	0407 709 854
Club Secretary	Belinda Ford	0409 419 360

PARKES ALIVE IN 2025

CORVETTE NATIONAL CONVENTION UPDATE

At the last 2025 CNC committee meeting it had been decided that the main entrant fee would be **\$325.00** and the additional entrant/partner fee would be **\$275.00**

Registration forms should be on the NSW Corvettes site in a matter of days.
Hopefully the latest brochure will be on the site as well.

Electronic Funds Transfer will be required for payment, as no card payments will be accepted.

Latest Motel information:

Bushmans Motor Inn Booked out.
North Parkes Motel 6 x Queen rooms available @ \$153 p/n.
International Motel Booked out.
Station Motel 3 x King rooms available @ \$230 p/n.
Moonraker Motor Inn 22 x Queen rooms available @ \$120 p/n. (3 Star rating)
02 6862 2355
Apollo Motel 15 x Queen rooms available @ \$115 p/n. (3 Star rating)
02 6862 3388 Parkes Country
Cabins 25 x Queen cabins available @ \$110 p/n.
02 6862 3400

Any Motel enquiries please contact Cathy Tullock on Mob: 0400 426 917

Presently, we have access to 172 rooms in the North Parkes region.

103 rooms have been booked already.

All of these properties are within walking distance to the Bushmans Motor Inn.

All of these properties mentioned will have security over the 3 nights of the CNC weekend.

The Saturday and Sunday bus shuttle service will only be available at the North Parkes Motel region.

Should members decide to stay elsewhere in Parkes the arranged security will not be available. In addition the arranged bus shuttle service will not be available.

Roll on March 2025!

Cheers,

Harry Turner

2025 CNC Co-ordinator

A Special Congratulations to R4

A special congratulations needs to go to Arthur for seeing his dream come true. Almost 8 years of hard work and overcoming huge technical challenges to build his C36 Corvette. "Well done Arthur" on behalf of the Corvette Club of South Australia.



CAR OF THE MONTH

Ian Hacon's C4





I am a:

- Man
- Woman

Looking for

- Men
- Women
- My 10mm Socket

Saturday Night Live:
Club dinner at the CYC Saturday the
4 of May



The follow is an extract from the American Official Publication of the National Council of Corvette Clubs called **BLUE BARS**.

This is a write up by a gentleman "Tom Pinard" who visited Australia back in August 2023 and did a quick road trip around Australia visiting as many Australian Corvette people as possible.
An interesting read.

"I WAS SOMEWHERE, GOING NOWHERE"

Questioning me, after talking about what she needed to do after "I'm gone day," it wasn't morose, not after almost 84 years, we were just having an honest Father's Day talk. Then Sharron said, "is there anything more you'd like to do, like to go?"



Without batting an eye, "Australia," I said, "I'd like to drive around Australia." Saying goodbye, it was clear that I was planning a trip to Australia, and at my age, I'd better do it quickly. Within days, I figured out how long it would take me to actually drive around Australia, four weeks, not wasting time sightseeing (much), just driving ALL of the country (the map shows Australia's size, when compared to USA).

Settling on mid-August, I booked round trip on American Airlines, found a decent car rental with unlimited mileage – and I was on my way...but hold it, need a VISA. No sweat, right? No, no, no... I'm over 75 and a full medical exam by a special Doc, taking up valuable time....

Waiting for the VISA I came up with the idea from something that happened in 2003 when we celebrated Corvette's 50th. On the Caravan from California, there were four or five Australian "blokes." They flew over, rented a van and were with us. Why not get in touch with Australian Corvette guys and have some fun, maybe I could be driving a Corvette SUV "mule," testing it for the future.



I found Corvettes Australia and a contact person "Down Under" in the person of Mark Andre. Once he heard my story, he got enthused and the snowball (there aren't many in Australia) started to roll. "Romp round Australia" was pretty crazy, any way you looked at it. As the map indicates, to do it realistically in about four weeks, had to be on the road sunrise to sunset almost every day (no one but truck trains – 3 or 4 trailers being pulled by one "tractor" - drive at night). With accommodations being sparse in the "Outback," I planned to outfit my SUV as a camper...it worked

well about 12 nights out of the 26 nights there. My driving took in the vastness of the country and the sparseness of people (Australia has 32 million, less than California, in entire country, most on the East Coast). Space doesn't permit my telling the whole story (read it all at <https://corvettesaustralia.com/>).

Leaving the cities of Australia, only about nine in the entire country, you are anywhere from 250 to 400 kilometers to the next town (villages, small towns). By the way, seven of the nine cities are on Australia's east coast.

Think of leaving Miami and heading north to Boston and having maybe one or two very small cities/towns in the entire 1000 miles. You don't see many cars traveling Australia, trucks and vans with extra fuel cans strapped on, along with extra spare tires are the norm. But we are about Corvettes so let's get into Corvettes of Australia "Mates." They are an active group and given the cost and "engineering (getting the cars moved over to right hand drive)," it is a passion that these folks have, enjoying their cars as much as we do.

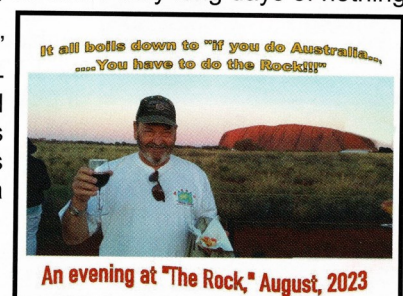
As I left Sydney (Miami) heading north, my new friend Mark wasn't able to put together a meeting with the Brisbane Corvette Club. Mark had published my agenda, a pretty tight schedule. We just couldn't connect. But as I made it to Cairns (pronounced Cane), and the Great Barrier Reef, I had my first contact with the Perth Corvette Mates on the West Coast, and while it a week or more before getting there, text and emails started flying.

Four days up the East Coast (remember Miami to Boston), then I turned west and into the famous "Outback." While two-lane roads and space between towns had started after Brisbane (about even with Charleston, South Carolina), nothing prepared me for heading up and over their "Blue Ridge Mountains"...just rolling hills, and then onto the barren.



Peter Graham in Perth, with many Corvettes in his stable including recent purchases of C-8s (he bought three so he could really decide what color he wanted, then sold the other two off), was arranging a welcoming committee with his lady, Jennifer, to make sure I would get to meet up with Perth Corvette folks. Along with Mark, who was keeping track of me, Peter's efforts buoyed me on, as those very long days of nothing (nowhere) were getting the best of me.

Had I not had these fellow Corvette "Mates," I might have made a left turn somewhere out in "Michigan or Wisconsin" --- remember the map – but their contacts kept me going, then the "Rock" changed. There is nothing better, naturally, that symbolizes it as the Original Peoples call it, Uluru. Not only is its location, in the middle of nowhere, you need a couple nights there to do it right.



Charged up, I only had another week before my meeting with the Perth Corvette folks..... So north to Darwin, Crocodile Dundee was not to be found, then on back down and around west again, heading to the Indian Ocean, Seattle or Portland if you're imagining the USA map.

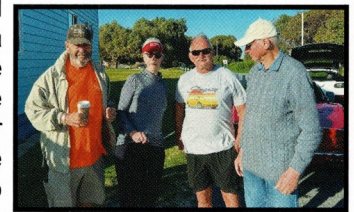
When I made the "West Coast," it was a beach resort called Broome. My time there was arriving at dusk, a Wednesday night barbecue with entertainment at the Caravan (RV) Park, then to sleep and heading south at 6 am the next morning for another 12 hours on the road.



Halfway down that 12 hours, Port Hedland (by the way, Sandfire and Pardoo are wide spots in road), about Roseburg, Oregon if you are following the USA map, bad diesel took me out and had not strangers stepped up to help, I'd probably still be there. Close to \$1000 (Australian, about \$650 US) and I was on my way, three hours late. The small town with Caravan Park I needed was 300 kilometers and I made it just at dusk. After a 150 kph run, I was relieved, then only to see a flat tire on my right rear as I exited the SUV.

Two Aussies stepped up, changed my tire, arranged for a new spare the next morning, and joined me for dinner. The next day was now 14 hours, compressed into 12 hours of daylight. Had to (110k was limit) run 130/140k to make up time. It was like driving from Redding, California to Los Angeles, on two lane roads. The State Police finally slowed me down, they could have impounded my car, but they were really good. I'm pretty sure my "ticket" was never turned in, and like I say, it could have been the end of the trip (their rules are very strict).

A text on that coastal odyssey from John Neskudla informed me that he and Peter and Jennifer would be waiting for me in a coastal resort north of Perth. What a relief to finally pull in and find Corvette Friends...they were/are like most all Corvette owners, nice people. Dinner, great conversation, a good night's sleep helped "lick the wounds" of the last two days. The next day following John, with Peter and Jennifer making sure I didn't stray, through rush hour Perth traffic and meeting more Corvette Blokes in a brief but interesting meeting and a sharing of banners. I was even able to disguise my SUV to make it look like the Corvette SUV "mule."



That evening in Bridgetown, "apple country of Southwest Western Australia, with Pat and Liz Corrigan, a "Mate" I had met on a trip to Peru years back. I then turned east to Adelaide and more Corvette "Mates" to get to know.

Now getting texts from Catherine, arranging for my next Corvette stop in Adelaide, home of the Corvette Club of



South Australia. But first I had to get across the Nullarbor, a vast deserted "plain" with a rugged coastline on the Southern Sea. Three more 12-hour days, 110 klicks an hour... Like San Diego to Mobile, Alabama. Nothing spectacular, except that sign.....

I wasn't going to "get away with only one stop by their "Bobby's." My second set of red lights happened as came into South Australia. I thought the speed limit had increased and the darn kilometers were remaining a hard thing to handle, they bounce up and down on the speedo... Anyway, I must have talked my way out of that one too as I haven't been notified of any fines to pay.....



As I approached Adelaide, that fine Corvette crew worked around it being Father's Day "Down Under," a tough time to get folks together for a picture with this roaming Californian. Catherine found a couple who would take the old Captain in for the night, then a picture as they booted him out of town the next day.

Stu and Ruth van Doorn, wonderful hosts, a great Australian dinner, good conversation and a comfortable bed. We posed in the morning with the Palm Springs and Corvette Club of South Australia banners and with shared stories (most everyone I came across over there has been to USA, enjoying the Corvette experience).

My "trekking" ended now I was back in the Southeastern and more developed part of Australia (homesteaded in the 1800's like a good share of America was). As I left the hills south of Adelaide, I headed east through vineyards, farms, grazing lands, small, charming communities

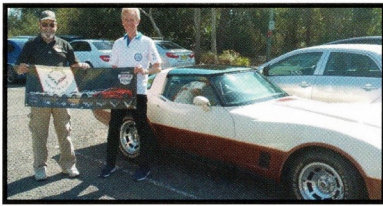
A shorter day took me to Geelong, a coastal city south of Melbourne and the home of Mark and Betty Andre. I would unwind a bit with a two-night stay, a tour of the "Surf Coast," the name of their Corvette Club. In a day of touring, we had to swing by Peter Scholer's farm, and a photo between two of his classic Corvettes.



"Down Under" you see many older Corvettes still being regularly driven. The reason is obvious, the huge cost of purchasing a Corvette. Not only is a large transportation expense getting them across the Pacific, but Australia hits purchasers hard with excise taxes. A new C-8 will cost over \$200,000 (Australian).

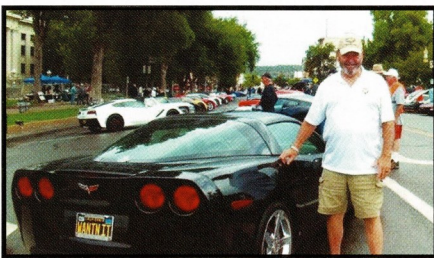


My trip at this point, think Mobile heading over to Orlando, will take me back to Sydney, and though I would be going through Canberra, Australia's capital, I hadn't linked up with their Corvette Club...regrettably. Yes, regrettably because I screwed up and failed to see an email sent earlier...and missed the opportunity to get together with a fine group of Corvette owners.



After a last night on the road, in the town where the Canberra group had suggested we meet, I ended up driving into Sydney for SUV turn-in, a night's sleep, then 17 hours 'rowing' that big Boeing 777 back to America. In Sydney, had the pleasure to meet, spend a couple hours with Warwick Williams, representing the NSW (New South Wales) Corvette Club. Here I saw another fine example of one of the older Corvettes. Warwick found this '81 in Colorado when he was working in the USA for a year, and able to bring the car home without excise tax (duty). His efforts include his right-hand conversion, look at this fine work.

Oh, hadn't mentioned driving on the right-hand side of the car. One irritation, at least the first few days, was smearing the windshield with water and dead bugs many times as I hit the left side of the steering wheel as I prepared to change lanes. ALSO, had to carefully remember to look right when pulling out onto a street, NOT left. But after a few days... got to be normal.



The "romp" is over now, back in the USA and have to say that while getting tired the last few days of my four-week adventure, I made it through pretty well and celebrated my 84th birthday quietly, happily and comfortably. Even made a Corvette run over to Prescott, Arizona, the last of September, for their car show and fun weekend.

Life is good.... And Save the Wave!!!

Tom Pinard - Palm Springs Corvette Club - Governor



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Ryan Grigg

Roger Slee

Darren York

Jamie Reese

Stephen Bryers

Graham Hay

Brian Evans

Pas Quartuccio

Simon Clarke

Mark Hounslow

Jan Spurling

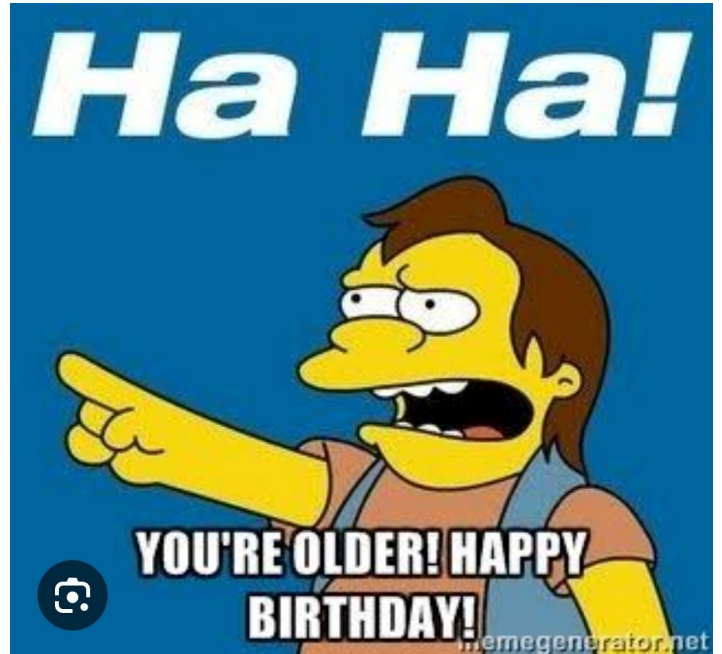
Lisa Chaney

Susan Walcroft

Jane Wild

Paula Hallett

Carol Voigt



Apologies if you have been missed. Club records may not have your birthday.

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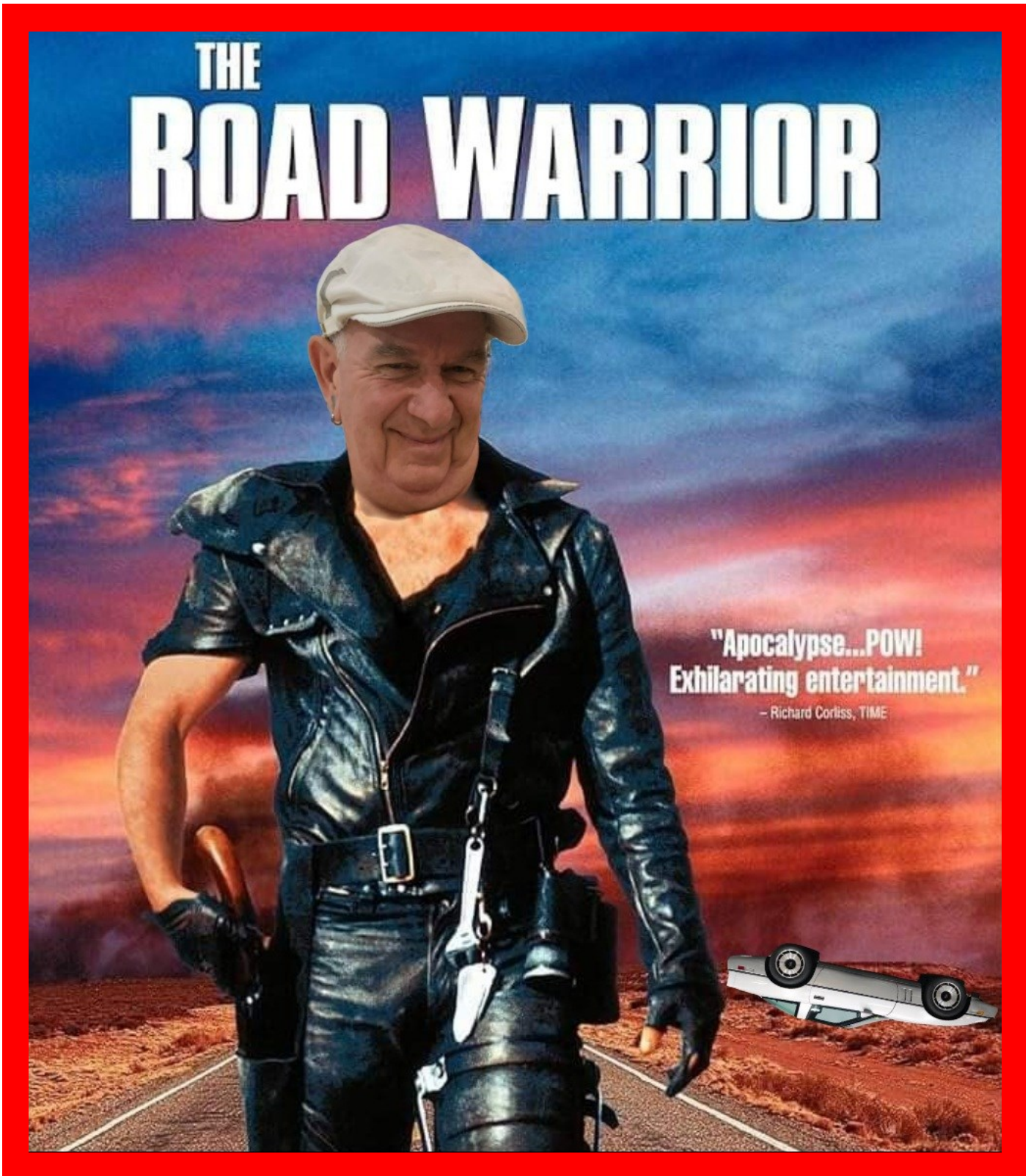


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