EOI's keep rolling in!

With just over 18 months to go, and with 100+ Expressions of Interest having already been received, I’m saddened (Ha Ha) to say Cadillac’s have hit the lead!! These events are normally dominated by the indestructible Model T, however at this early stage, Cadillac’s followed by Renaults and then T’s are the front runners of entries. Unusual entries include a Martini, Empire, Albion, Munroe, a number of Hotchkiss, Daraques & Sunbeams and a big Stoddard Dayton.

Key event days are starting to fall into place with a day trip to the wonderful Mayfield Gardens going to be a highlight!

For those of you at are not familiar with these iconic private gardens that have been recently opened to the public, click on the link below, it promises an interesting days visit and some wonderful food to top it off.


I’ve been asked many a time “do I have to ship a car over?!” Short answer No, there are several options

- **Swaggie** - the Aussie term for visitors hitching a ride in a Brass Era Auto!

International entrants are reminded that you do not need to have a car "Down under" - whilst we will assist with the logistics of shipping vehicles to and from Australia, the "Swaggie" option is alive and well and many people will welcome "swaggies" into their car for the day or duration of the tour.. Pack your bags and come anyway!

A number of people have enquired if they could purchase a car (Model T or other) use it for 1 or all 3 tours and then sell it and the simple answer is yes, there are always Brass Era cars for sale here, and with T’s or Cadillac’s a reasonable amount of "spares" just in case of some unfortunate touring problems.

Accommodation Headquarters

Accommodation headquarters with be the Rydges hotel directly alongside Conrod Straight on the Mt Panorama race track.

Rydges has undercover parking which is locked up at 10.00pm each evening and has rooms from singles to 4 bedroom apartments.

Rydges has established a dedicated booking web site for the HCCA Tour so there is no need to ring & mention the tour, just book on line through the web site. If you are booking with a Credit Card that expires post October 2019 then there is no deposit required.


I have most of the rooms held for our tour, however this will be on a sliding scale meaning that as we get 12 months out a certain number of room will be release to the general public and then 6 months out, 3 months etc so book early.
Mt Panorama Raceway

This historic mountain race track will be home for a week to the 7th HCCA International Tour.

Mount Panorama began as a dirt-track/tourist-drive carved out of the bald hills around the bustling city of Bathurst in the mid 1930s. The Council of the time, specifically Mayor Martin Griffin, had a vision for a premier motor racing circuit with the sharp hills, hairpin bends and a fast downhill straight that would inspire, awe and demand respect from all who took up the challenge for years to come.

On 17 March 1938 Mayor Martin Griffin declared the Mount Panorama Scenic Drive open. He always knew that the road was going to be used for motor racing but Depression Era funds weren't easy to come by, so he had to create a ruse. At Easter 1938 the first races were held and except for the war (WWII), have been run ever since.

Mount Panorama is indisputably a Mecca for motor racing fans all over Australia and around the world. On 16 April 1938, Mount Panorama attracted an overwhelming 20,000 spectators to its first race, The Australian Tourist Trophy.

Photographs of the early days of racing on Mount Panorama show the crowd leaning over wire fences, vehicles on dirt tracks, officials in canvas tents, and drivers with gloves, goggles and jacket, but no helmet. The facilities at Mount Panorama were non-existent during this time, with nothing more than dirt and some lines marking out a pit space for each car.

Of more recent times, Mount Panorama has undergone some serious refurbishment to ensure the legacy of this icon lives on for generations to come. The spiritual home of Australian motorsport has been well and truly established through the staging of 46 consecutive Bathurst 1000 races (formerly 500). The Mount has seen drivers come and drivers go, with few ever completely dominating the merciless curves and unforgiving straights. In 2006, 194,000 spectators turned out not only to witness Craig Lowndes edge out Rick Kelly for his 2nd Bathurst title, but also to farewell one of the best racing car drivers Australia has ever produced - Peter Brock, King of the Mountain.

Our home for a week will be the pit area and corporate facilities above Pit Straight. However drivers be warned, Mount Panorama is a public road and regularly patrolled by police who do a great trade for the NSW economy, booking speeding vehicles on the historic track, so unless you are itching for a framed speeding fine, beware it is limited to 60kmp (35mph).
Sponsors:

As with all rallies you cannot run them without the generous support of financial and logistical sponsors.

We would like to Thank

Pre & Post tour events:

Don't forget that there is plenty to do in OZ and these include both the Pre & Post tour events:

For those travelling both interstate and internationally, we are coordinating with a number of other Events either side

- The Queensland Veteran Car Club National Tour
  Tues 17th Mon 23rd September. The VCCA Qld will also be providing pre & post Qld tourist & veteran activities.

- The Model T Ford Club of Australia, National Tour
  Marlborough QLD.
  29th September
  5th October 2019

- Sydneysiders tour of the City

- Mudgee a guide to Country Life and boutique Wines.

Our 1902 Thomas will defiantly be there!

Our logo

Australia is full of unique and rare birds including many big & colourful varieties from the parrot family. We (Chris & I) are blessed to have many for these frequent our home every morning & afternoon.

One of the most celebrated of these (but somewhat of a pest!) is the Sulphur Crested Cockatoo. To assist with directional signage and as part of your rally routes, the iconic Cockatoo will be at each major intersection where you need to make a direction decision, the one below for straight ahead, the one on the top right hand corner of the newsletter to turn left and the opposite to turn right.
Stories Needed:

**Are you doing the “final Dash”?**

In coming Newsletters we will be featuring some of the vehicles that will be "on show" at this unique event. As you are all aware there will be vehicles from Australia and all over the globe, that this will be a once in a life time opportunity to see them.

So, Restoration stories are needed - we have all done that final dash to finish a restoration or major repair just in time to participate in a tour. If you have recently completed a restoration or are “doing the dash” let us know as we would like to feature some of the painstaking efforts that members go through to get ready for a tour.

**1970 or 1978 International Tour, where you there, or was your vehicle?**

In writing this request for the last newsletter, I must confess that I totally forgot that one of our Cadillac’s was on both the previous International Tours! and whilst it is a 1918 and not eligible for this HCCA event, I know there are plenty of vehicles out there that are eligible and were on one or both of the tours, so send in your story!

As I mentioned earlier Cadillac’s are the front runner in numbers of entrants and Scott and Craig Emmerson's 1912 Cadillac tourer was one of the first to enter. It also participated on both previous International Tours and has the distinction of having also transversed most of the United States. Former owner and Cadillac LaSalle Club (CLC) of Australia, founding member Ken Moss shipped Maybelline & his family to the US in 1965 and drove the car from California to Detroit before shipping the car back home.  

Scott and Craig's grandfather, Henry Formby also a founding member of the CLC was great mates with Ken and purchased Maybelline some time after that wonderful trip and passed the car on to another generation of early Cadillac enthusiasts. It has been used extensively on tours ever since and will be there in 2019

**Thankyou**

Thanks to those people who have already offered to help at or before the rally, it is really appreciated. And for those that are considering, please do –many hands make light work and a more enjoyable rally for everyone.

**Next Issue**

We will be planning the next newsletter for September 2018, just prior to our trip to Hershey, or earlier if needs be....