





Van Nationals 2009

Top Van

"SQUIRT" 1976 Ford Escort

Tailgate Chatter is the bi-monthly official magazine of the Sun State Panel Van Club Inc.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER PUBLIC RELATIONS DATUM OFICER EDITOR Russell Slocombe Bernie Lloyd-Jones John Dolton Kim Reilly Phil Litster Laurie Pugsley Brett Rubie



http://groups.msn.com/sunstatepanelvanclub Email: sunstatepanelvanclub@hotmail.com

Next General Meeting: SUNDAY 31st May 2009 Caboolture Aerodrome. 10am Sharp

Articles printed in this newsletter are the opinion of the individual writer and not those of the Sun State Panel Van Club Inc. or its group membership.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope everyone had a great Easter break and all the Mums had a great Mother's Day on the 10^{th} of May.

Susie and I had a top trip down south to the Nationals. Three weeks on the road, 4500kms and the Van never missed a beat. The old dinosaur was quite thirsty though, only getting 6kms to the litre. A bit on the uneconomical side, but what the hell. It's been interesting hearing and reading comments on how the Nationals were portrayed. Many have put their two bobs worth in so I thought I might do the same. Firstly I would like to thank Daz, Dot & Co for running a great National's. Finally after 33 years someone got off their backside and found a venue in the Melbourne area, where Vanning was suppose to have been born. They did a wonderful job and any criticism is only sent as constructive, for their effort was outstanding for a first event. Now before I go any further, I want to remind everyone that these opinions are my own and after being involved in many Nationals, I think I can comment on where I think the Van Nationals and Van Scene is placed at the moment.

The weekend started its usual Nationals Self with Thursday and into Friday fairly casual catching up with people that we don't see very often, settling in to our camp site and checking out what Vans were floating about. Friday afternoon we wandered down to the Van Council of Victoria's AGM meeting. Annual General Meeting is what was supposed to happen, but unfortunately it was far from close. Committee members with no prepared notes or direction, no general business to speak of and no attendance book handed around to list what numbers members wise, were attending. The election process was as usual hard to sit through. Not much enthusiasm what so ever! Well done to Ian Stephens for putting his hand up, and Cliff Parfit is always there to lend a hand when everyone's arms seem to drop off their shoulders. Forty five minutes and it was all over. A year's worth of Vanning crammed into a meeting (including Elections) that ran less than an hour. Surely the outgoing committee achieved something to speak about over the last twelve months. For the VCV to be any sort of recognised automotive club more interest has to put into Vans. Things need to pick up as far as member participation (how many members are on the books I don't know?) and people have to become members. \$20 membership! What a bargain! I cannot understand how people can call themselves Vanners and not fork out 20 bucks to support the body that tries hard to make things happen, so the enthusiasts have organised advertised events to get together, to share their passion "Vanning".

During the Nationals weekend I'm sure there were plenty of new Vanners attending for the first time and many of them may have been interested in what was going on in the Van Scene down south. Unfortunately only VCV members were given a Nationals magazine. The perfect opportunity to reach out and advertise Vanning to all who entered was lost. How is Vanning going to go in any forward direction if the people entering the Nationals are not receiving information to interest them in becoming members of the governing body in that State. Everyone should have received a magazine and the VCV should have been promoting themselves and also the sponsors who are a major part of any event. The Van Nationals has lost its focus on Vans. No one cares that the Vans are set up on a dust bowl show day, but the camp site and party area must be spot on. The Van Nationals has sadly turned into a weekend more devoted to drinking and partying than Vanning. Yes, car clubs and associations evolve but the focus and interest of the group must continue to be about the vehicle of favor.

Saturday came and the cruise was underway to the water park with relative ease. Those that wished to brave the cool conditions of the water park; I'm sure had a great time. We decided to head into Geelong for a look around the Ford Discovery centre instead of the car events out at Avalon Speedway a forty minute trip towards Melbourne. The Saturday night dress up party was tops with the usual people making an effort to dress up for the Seventies night. The ACDC tribute band thumped their way into the night. Even Bernie got onto the dance floor. We still don't know who won best dressed or even if it was awarded?

Sadly, due to the continuous and devastating drought, the arena that the show was going to be on resembled the Simpson Desert. It was Disappointing that the owner of vehicles that had travelled from up to three States away, taken two days to clean their machines and then have to put them on a dust bowl was not good. It was also discrimination that a select few were chosen to put their vehicles on the dust free bitumen when there was clearly plenty of room to put as many as possible on the tar. A plan should have been in place to take the show from the arena and use the better facilities available, such as the building the meal night was held, the large carport area where some vans were parked and the bitumen around that area. Yes, there were clubs set up close to those areas and permission would have to be sought for the use of various buildings, but knowing well in advance that the arena was not acceptable to host a National event; an alternate arrangement should have been on standby. The dusty arena I'm sure also made the judging of the vehicles quite unpleasant (especially the undercarriage judges). I was next to a person who turned to their friend and said. "Why is there cardboard under that van?" The other person said. "They are mirrors covered in dust".

I do agree that getting the Rodders to judge the show was a good move and that there should be an outside body used to judge a National Van event. The Results from the Victorian State Titles to the Nationals should be a wakeup call to how judging is being done, and a wakeup call to those showing machines that may need a serious update. For the Nationals judges to have looked at the Vans from their different prospective was a breath of fresh air. The Van that won the Van Nationals Title was poorly credited and poorly fan fared. The trophy was far below the quality deserved of a Nationals winner and the perpetual shield was nowhere to be seen. I am pleased for the winner "Squirt". It was the first small Van to ever win the Top Van title. It was nice to see a fresh Van hit the scene and win. As much as I love the Van that came second, for a twenty five year old unchanged Van to take the title would have been even more controversial and set the Van show scene into a faster reverse motion than it is already in. The VCV agreed to get the Rodders to judge the Nationals and if anyone is not happy with the results, then the State Titles should be looked at controversially as well. There were some nice Vans at the State Titles (including Australia's judged Top Van) that were overlooked. Many of them then failed to show up at the Nationals. Why?

Let's hope the new committee can start working to get certain issues standardised so that winners of Vanning National event feel like they have achieved something special and the entrants can be assured that they can show their machines on respectable venues and arenas. Maybe the States can work together to put some of these standards in place for Vannings National event.

I received an email on a possible venue for the 2010 Nationals. Interest has been shown for a resort on Phillip Island in Victoria. I say well done to that or those persons involved for at least putting out the feelers. I will be there with a \$200 sponsorship to whoever gets the Nats happening for 2010. Let's hope someone will make it happen to take my sponsorship.

Enough about Easter. Sunstate Van Club has plenty happening with our show for next year being set for the 28th February 2010. The day will incorporate the Queensland State Van Titles into the show. We invite everyone to bring their Vans out for the day from any State or Territory to join in and celebrate Vanning. Accommodation and award list details will be available soon.

The next Club meeting will be a week earlier than normal due to the Queen's Birthday weekend in June, so the meeting will be held on the 31st May at the Caboolture airport where the club will supply a free meal from the cafe on site. We hope all members will attend so the club can say thank you for the great support the members gave at the Morayfield Show back in February.

The clubs next outing will be on the 28th of June. We have been invited to put on a Van display at the Lawnton Farmers Market at the Lawnton Show grounds. I hope that we are well represented. It should be a good morning. Maybe a cruise after the display would be good. I will have more details at the next meeting. Cheers Russell



YATALA DRIVE-IN NIGHT, March 2009

We cruised down to the Yatala Drive-in on the 21st of March for the Dependable Rockers annual Rod and Custom fund raiser. A Rock a Billy band was keeping the ever growing crowd entertained and a few trade stalls were on hand for a bit of a look. Susie and I set the Van up in field two to watch "Watchmen" and "Traitor", with field one putting on "Confessions of a Shopaholic" and "Bedtime Stories". After a couple of circuits of the grounds checking out the cars Paul had arrived and wheeled in next to us. Then "Devo" slid in on the other side. The "Watchmen" seemed to go forever and there were even cheers from around the Drive-In when it finished. As we were watching the last half an hour two figures appeared at the back of our Van. We were just a little short of telling them to move out of the way when they asked if there was anyone home to receive the Best Commercial trophy. We were very surprised and after they virtually tossed it into the back of the Van, they moved on. "Traitor" was a little better and after it finished we climbed out of the Van to see there was only about twenty cars left in the place. A good day was held by all and the award was a nice Cheers Russell memento.





Van Nationals 2009. Members Report



Hi all its Phil here, on my road trip to Geelong, I left Brisbane on the Monday 12pm drove pretty much right through, got there late on Tuesday about 6pm. Elizabeth rang me a couple of times to ask where I was, I said" I can see a concrete driveway coming up", she said "where," & I said "have a look out the window" & I drove in the driveway. Elizabeth's house is just across the road from the showgrounds, & the only thing that went wrong with the van is the power steering went as we drove into the grounds, so \$300 later & a lot of mucking around fitting it all was okay. The show was pretty good, Daryl, dot & Tracy with the help of the Geelong hot rod association, did a very good job organizing & running the show. There was a very good selection of Vans & a good turnout of the van clubs throughout Australia. I got 2nd best big van which was good; Bernie did quite well with trophies as well. Met up with Chris brown the owner of the Bedford called the judge on the highway on my return trip, took some great photos out of my driver's window. All the Queenslanders had a very good time; we will all be back at the 2010 nationals where ever that may be.

Phil Sunstate panel van club



Van Nationals 2009. Members Report

Unfortunately this report, which is my personal opinion and not that of Sunstate Panel Van Club, may contain more negative comments than positive.

Daz and Dot must be commended for their efforts in staging the event and Daz was very helpful throughout the year leading up to the Van Nats.especially with our constantly moving camping area.

However, I came away from this year's nats with a feeling of disappointment. This began with the Saturday cruise. As the vans were lined up inside the showgrounds, the lead vans should have waited until we were out on the street. Instead the leaders took off leaving most of the convoy behind. Although I was not familiar with area I (with PJ aboard as navigator) slowed until the main group caught up. Although everyone eventually arrived at the destination, the effect of the vans in convoy was lost.

The dryness of the showgrounds was something that could not be helped; however the allocation of concrete and undercover areas for showing of vans has to be questioned. The stipulation that entrants had to remain on the grounds until 5 PM was ridiculous. As a long dusty day drew to a close we were pleased to hear the announcement of presentation for non vans.

However we were surprised to hear the announcement straight after of van awards. As this is normally on the Sunday night after the auction we were very surprised. Some vanners had headed back to camp not knowing the van presentation was underway.

More disappointing was that there were no merit or encouragement awards presented. On questioning this I was told that the "Vanners "who were meant to judge these awards had left without judging them. It was suggested Sunstate could suggest vans for these awards. As most entrants had left the field, this was hardly practical.

As Sunstate members were on the grounds all day, we could have helped with this task. I believe these awards are important, as there is a need to encourage people who have put in some major work on their vans and in many cases driven long distances and endured a day in the dirt, to go home with no recognition.

Later in the evening, when the award for best-dressed couple was made, the winners were "Sonny and Cher". No one came forward to claim the prize and I cannot remember anyone who looked like Sonny and Cher, so that one is still a mystery. I thoroughly applaud the vanners who placed in the top ten, and congrats to Phil,

Bernie and Rick and Robyn.

However I think that a street class would be a good category to introduce to the Nationals.

This would provide more interest and give up and coming vanners something to strive for.

Overall I think that the preparations and lead up to the event were excellent but execution on the day was very disappointing. John Dolton

Vanners at Play – 2009 AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS





















HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

We would like to wish a big

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to all our people for the months of June and July

> Liz Richardson 6th June Robyn Johnson 9th June Marion Pugsley 10th June Mathew Page 26th June Paul Page 27th June Paige Rubie 29th June

Susie Wilson 10th July

Sunstate Panel Van Club Apparel for Sale

Round Brim Hat	\$10 each (3 available)	
Club Jacket (Members only)	\$50each (1- Large, 1-XXLarge, 1-XXXX Large)	
Club Polo Shirts	\$25 each (2-Large, 2- X large available)	
New Style Club T-Shirts \$40each (Male and Female contact PJ)		
Old Style Club T-Shirts \$10each (2- Large available)		
Number plate frames	\$10 pair (20 pairs available)	

Van Nats Caboolture 2007

Pins	\$2 each (plenty available)
Patches	\$2 each (plenty available)
Stickers	\$2 each (plenty available)
T- Shirts	\$10each (2 medium, 8 X large, 2 XX large available)
Hats	\$10 each (plenty available)

Van Nats Gympie 2003

Pins	
Various	Stickers

\$2 each (2 available)\$2 each (plenty available)

If you wish to purchase any of the above items please contact Kym at Kimmygirl 60@yahoo.com.au

RESULTS – 2009 AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS

Vanners/ Entrants Choice - 'Illusions' - 2006 VZ Holden - Bernie Lloyd-Jones and Karen Adams

TOP VAN - Ken Hallam 1976 Ford Escort - 'Squirt' 2nd Top Van – Brett Birch 1975 HJ Holden – 'Street Legal' 3rd Top Van - Colin Proctor 1956 FJ Holden - 'Proc's J' 4th Top Van - Ange Galofaro 1960 FB Holden - 'Z10 JOE' 5TH Top Van – Tony Hegyesi 1957 FE Holden – 'FE VAN' 6th Top Van - Shane Dale 1977 HZ Holden - 'SANDMAN 502' 7TH Top Van – Darryl Launer 1997 Ford Transit – 'Highway Menace Reborn' 8th Top Van – James Ellis Bedford – 'Mystic Fantasy' 9th Top Van – Bernie Lloyd-Jones and Karen Adams 2006 VZ Holden – 'Illusions' 10th Top Van – Stuart Marshall 1978 HZ Sandman – 'Stormbringer'

Top Holden Van - Shane Dale 1977 HZ Holden - 'SANDMAN 502' Top Ford Van - Frits Pel - 'JAFFA' Top Chrysler Van – Ginny Ross

Police Choice - Colin Proctor 1956 FJ Holden - 'Proc's J' Peoples Choice – Dee Gray 1977 VW Combi

Top Van Interior – Ken Hallam 1976 Ford Escort – 'Squirt' 2nd Van Interior – Colin Proctor 1956 FJ Holden – 'Proc's J' Top Van Exterior - Tony Hegyesi 1957 FE Holden - 'FE Van' 2nd Van Exterior - Ken Hallam 1976 Ford Escort - 'Squirt' Top Drive Train – Tony Hegyesi 1957 FE Holden – 'FE Van' 2nd Drive Train – Ken Hallam 1976 Ford Escort – 'Squirt' Top Standard Paint – Joel Mahon 1995 Toyota Hi Ace Top Graphics - Ian Horner 2004 VY Holden Top Custom Paint - Ken Hallam 1976 Ford Escort - 'Squirt' Top Murals – Bernie Lloyd-Jones and Karen Adams 2006 VZ Holden – 'Illusions' Top Modified Body – Steve Wright 1977 Ford Escort – 'Mirage'



Top Big Van – James Ellis – Bedford 'Mystic Fantasy' 2nd Big Van – Phil Litster – CFS Bedford 3rd Big Van – Troy Skidmore 1997 VW Transporter

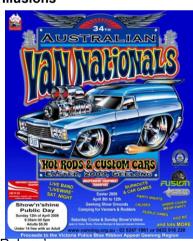
Top Medium Van – Brett Birch 1975 HJ Holden – 'Street Legal' Medium Van - Colin Proctor 1956 FJ Holden - 'Proc's J' 3rd Medium Van – Ange Galofaro 1960 FB Holden – 'ZI0 Joe'

Top Small Van - Ken Hallam 1976 Ford Escort - 'Squirt' 2nd Small Van – Gary Scicluna 1978 Ford Escort 3rd Small Van – Robert Crutch 1947 Ford Anglia

Top Millennium Van – Darryl Launer 1997 Ford Transit – 'Highway Menace Reborn' 2nd Millennium Van – Bernie Lloyd-Jones and Karen Adams 2006 VZ Holden – 'Illusions' Top Millennium Van Paint - Bernie Lloyd-Jones and Karen Adams 2006 VZ Holden – 'Illusions' Top Millennium Van Interior – Rick and Robyn Johnson 2006 VZ Holden Sandman Top Millennium Van Exterior – Darryl Launer 1997 Ford Transit – 'Highway Menace Reborn'

Top Work Van – Lucas Duncombe CF250 Bedford Best Individual Display - Robert Crutch 1947 Ford Anglia Best Club Display Van - East Coast Vanners Best Club Display Van - Wastelands Grot 'n' No Shine - Grant Scott 1977 HZ Holden





2009 AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS TOP 10



SUNSTATE PANEL VAN CLUB – RESULTS AT 2009 AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS IN GEELONG

'ILLUSIONS' – 2006 HZ HOLDEN BERNIE LLOYD-JONES AND KAREN ADAMS

- Vanners' Choice
- 9th Top Van
- Top Murals
- 2nd Millennium Van
- Top Millennium Van Paint



PHIL LITSTER – BEDFORD VAN

• 2nd Big Van



RICK AND ROBYN JOHNSON - 2006 HZ HOLDEN SANDMAN

• Top Millennium Van Interior



Van Nationals 2009. Members Report

Sunstate Panel Van Club should be proud of the results achieved at the 2009 Australian Van Nationals held over the Easter weekend in Geelong Victoria.

The club was represented by Bernie Lloyd-Jones (Illusions); Russell Slocombe and Susie Wilson (Ford Cobra); John Dolton and Kim Reilly (WB Holden); Rick and Robyn Johnson (2006 VZ Holden Sandman) and PJ (travelling in style by aircraft).

The trip down was hassle free and I finally own ½ a panel van that I can actually drive, so Rick and I were able to share the driving in our recent addition to our panel van family (which seems to grow every time I turn around).

The showground's at Geelong were very dry and dusty but there was still 'cleaning and polishing' to be done ... so no rest for the wicked. With the help of our very own '2007 & 2008 No. 1 Australian Van winner' by our side the work begins. Rick was not overly confident at first but as the hours passed by the van was looking better by the minute. My job was to detail the interior and Rick and PJ were there taking wheels off and cleaning parts of the van I did not even know existed. By Saturday afternoon the van was looking even better than when we bought it and presented well on show day winning the 'Top Millennium Van Interior' award.

The Saturday night at Nats is traditionally the 'Fancy Dress / Dinner Night' and to be honest this is what I really go to the nationals for!! This year's theme was '*Psychedelic 70's*' – so the challenge was set and the fun begins ... I spent months searching eBay for our perfect costumes and since I helped Rick prepare our van for show day the least he could do was put on a '*Mullet Wig*' and sparkly disco shirt and dance the night away with me to the AC/DC cover band 'LiveWire'. Susie and Russell joined the fun by dressing up and looked fantastic. *Sonny and Cher is that you?*?

It was great to catch up with vanners from the other states and it was fantastic to see so many panel vans all in one place – I don't think I have ever seen so many vans together before. **Vanning is obviously alive and well!**

It was a fun time had by all!

Robyn Johnson



Van Nationals 2009. Just Cars June Report



35th VAN Nationals Vic. April 2nd - 5th 2010

Hello Vanners,

With the huge success of the 2009 Van Nationals and the other states not being in a position to run the 2010 Nationals, the VCV will be running it once again. There is no area selected yet, but there will be a Van Nationals and it will be in Victoria. If you are interested in attending and would like to be kept informed please email: info@vanning.org.au and when more details are available we will let you know.

Keep on Vanning, VCV Committee



SUNSTATE PANELVAN CLUB INC.

Secretary John Dolton 19/05/09

Dear Member Just a reminder that the next club meeting is **31/5/09 The meeting has been brought forward one week due to the June Long Weekend.**

Meeting place is Caboolture Aerodrome Starting Time 10.00 am.

Following the meeting members can enjoy a meal and soft drink (1 per person) Meal and drink courtesy of Sunstate Panel Van Club.

See you there Yours In Vanning John Dolton

Bundaberg Early Holden Club All Holden Day 9/5/09

After a brief stop over off at Barsbys at Maryborough for some last minute parts needs John and Kim arrived in Bundaberg around 4.30 PM on Friday afternoon...Some light rain on the way up made cleaning the van necessary.Fortunatley our friendly caravan park provided us with undercover parking so the Saturday morning was fairly easy. Arriving at the Across the Waves grounds around 7.30 am we were greeted by smiling Bundaberg folk as usual.

We were pleased to see Howie not long after and our small Sunstate contingent settled in for the day.

Sadly for the Bundaberg club, numbers were noticeably down on last year. However, the Sunshine Coast division of the EJ-EH Club made a good showing as did the Monaro Club from Brisbane. I think it fair to say that without these too clubs the show would have been a disappointment to the organisers.

The day passed pleasantly talking to enthusiasts and taking in the fine machinery on show. Also some purchasing (top secret) from the swap stalls.

Presentation began just before 3 PM and all present thought we were in for an early finish.

Unfortunately presentation dragged on more than usual at these events, with a great deal of trophy and paperwork shuffling. Some trophies were given out of order while other entrants received the wrong trophy.

Top Van went to the red EH van with the late model V6 sitting nicely in the engine bay. John and Kim came away with the 1st place trophy HQ-WB Ute/Van... (Modified). Car of Show went to a lime green LJ Torana with enormous rear wheels and a rear mounted parachute.

The hand made trophies featuring an engine block and chrome accessories were a credit to the Bundaberg Early Holden Club member who made them.

Congratulations to the Bundaberg Early Holden Club for staging the event in these difficult economic times.

See you in Bundy next year.

John Dolton





Upcoming Club Events

<u>June 09</u>

7/6/09 Caboolture Regional Car Club Inc. Show and Shine / Swap Meet Barr Oval Beerburrum Road Caboolture. (**Show details attached**)

28/06/09 Van display at the Lawnton Farmers Market at the Lawnton Showgrounds

28/06/09 RACQ MotorFest, Ascot, Eagle Farm Racecourse

05/07/09 Logan Car Show, Logan Entertainment Centre

18/07/09 Cure 4 Cancer Car Show, Hinkler Central Shopping Centre, Bundaberg

For Details see Just Cars Magazine



<u>CABOOLTURE REGIONAL</u> <u>CAR CLUB INC.</u> CAR SHOW & SHINE 7th June 2009

AT BARR OVAL (Aussie Rules Football Club) Next to Caboolture Historical Village. BEERBURRUM ROAD, CABOOLTURE UBD MAP REF: 47:Q11

GATES OPEN - 6am for Set-up

<u>ENTRY</u>

\$5.00 PER CAR / BIKE Includes Driver & 1 Passenger. Extra Passengers \$3 per Adult

CATEGORIES

Top Sedan • Top Ute • Top Bike • Best Orginal • Top Muscle Top Murial • Top Paint • Top Coupe • Best Engine Bay Best Interior • Peoples Choice • Best of Show • Runner Up • Encouragement Award. Sponsored by Caboolture Regional Car Club

SEE OVER FOR DETAILS OF SWAP MEET

All catering facilities available on grounds.

For Info Phone • Rod - 3889 4561 • Cathy - 07 5495 3312

Proceeds from Show support local charities.

eg. Caboolture Childrens Hospital, Burpengary Riding for the Disabled, Caboolture Blue Nurses, Meals on Wheels, Bellthorpe Rural Fire Brigade and many MORE.





CABOOLTURE REGIONAL CAR CLUB INC. ANNUAL SWAP MEET 7th June 2009

ALL MAKES

ALL MODELS

AT BARR OVAL (Aussie Rules Football Club) Next to Caboolture Historical Village. BEERBURRUM ROAD, CABOOLTURE UBD MAP REF: 47:Q11

GATES OPEN

5 am Sites Holders • 6am for General Public NO SITES RESERVED
SWAP SITES
\$5.00 PER SITE (Any Size) Includes Driver & 1 Passenger. Children Free.

LOOKERS: - \$3.00 PER ADULT

SEE OVER FOR DETAILS OF SHOW & SHINE All catering facilities available on grounds.

All catching facilities available on grounds.

For Info Phone • Cathy - 5495 3312 • Ross - 3886 7497

Proceeds from Swap support local charities.

eg. Caboolture Childrens Hospital, Burpengary Riding for the Disabled, Caboolture Blue Nurses, Meals on Wheels, Belthorpe Rural Fire Brigade and many MORE.









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