



RETIREES' CLUB

AUGUST 1999 NEWSLETTER No. 40

The 80th and quarterly luncheon of the Holden Retirees' Club was held at The Bentleigh Club on Thursday, 3rd June, 1999 at which 127 members attended. Our guest speaker was Tony Hyde, Director – Engineering & Design, Holden Limited, whose curriculum vitae is attached.

Our President, Frank Pound, announced before lunch that our guest speaker had kindly brought a new Holden WH Statesman sedan for members viewing and the car was located in the Fountain Garden. Many members inspected the new Statesman before and after lunch and agreed that it was another great car from Holden.

Frank, also advised members on arrival and before lunch, that a "Reserved" sign was on each table and for members to put their name on a table "Reserved" sign to claim a table seat, rather than tilting a chair against a table top.

This idea seemed to work well and we thank members for their cooperation. We shall continue this practice for all future luncheons.

After lunch was served, Frank welcomed all members, our guest speaker, new members and announced recent obituaries.

New Members:

Dave Birrell	–	Engineering
Brian Butt	–	Design Staff
Bill Cashmore	–	Engineering
Don Clifton	–	Engineering Department – Drawing Office
Veronica Clifton	–	Supply & Engineering Departments
Bob Cox	–	Parts and Accessories
Max Fuller	–	Dandenong Plant
Phil Johnson	–	Finance Department

President: 33 Parnell Street, Cheltenham Vic. 3192
Secretary: 18 Reuben Street, Cheltenham Vic 3192

Tel: (03) 9583 7723
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Obituaries:

Sam Bonnici

Jack Joyce – Dandenong

Jim Lindsay – Traffic

S. Lucautis

May Mott – NASCO

A minutes silence was observed for all deceased members and we pass on our expressions of sympathy to all families of the above.

Jim Lindsay had previously forwarded a letter of apology advising that he was finding it difficult to attend further luncheons due to the distance he had to travel and his state of health, but he also advised that he had hoped to be at the December luncheon, unfortunately he passed on prior to our June luncheon.

Unfortunately another very popular retiree who had transferred from Woodville Supply Department to Melbourne Supply Department many years ago has passed on and I refer to Bronte Marcus – he will be sadly missed and our sincere sympathies are extended to his wife Una (Una Dell) who only recently retired and joined the Retirees' Club.

A list of 41 apologies was then read to members:

Brian Adams	Jim McCance – Gold Coast
Wally Ames	Colin McLean
D. Arvanitakis	Keith Nicholson
Ken Bond	Laurel O'Dwyer – Townsville
Harry Boylan	Cliff Orchard
Nick Condovrackis	Mike Perry – Coffs Harbour
Jack Cox	Alistair Pearce
Leo Curran	Paul Pollak
Kath Davis	Jack Rawnsley
Doug Davis	George Reid
Gordon Eastwood	George Saaty
Gerry Gifford	Bill Scott
John Gough	Walter Scott – Adelaide
Mick Hannon	John Smith
John Harris	Ray Stemmer
Kevin Heyes	Muriel Stockdale
Lorraine Hope	Ian Watson – Adelaide
Heather Horsley – Townsville	John Willis – Port Macquarie
Gordon Hughes	Bob Wright – Bundaberg
Leo Mahoney	Don Wylie
Bill Matchett	

Frank then introduced our guest speaker, Tony Hyde. Tony gave an excellent presentation with visual aids on the design, development and production of the all new Holden WH Statesman and Caprice sedans.

These larger, luxury level sedans are being built at the Elizabeth plant in both right and left hand drive for the local and export markets.

Tony also answered many questions from members. The level of interest reflected the "straight shooting" by Tony.

Our Vice President, Hugh Videon, thanked Tony for bringing the Statesman and for the most informative talk to members; our members expressed their appreciation with a great round of applause.

Our next luncheon will be on Thursday, 2nd September, 1999 at The Bentleigh Club at 12:00 noon and our guest speaker will be Mike Simcoe, Executive Director of Design. Mike will speak about the exciting new technology used to design new models, including the show stopping Holden Coupe.

I recently received from Marcus Marsden advice that he, as a volunteer, was given the responsibility of the planning, operation and control of the 1956 Olympic Torch Relay from Cairns to the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Due to the success of that project he, Mr Marcus Marsden is writing a complete story of the relay including all aspects of some of the runners experiences which he advises me incurred many handicaps.

He received much help from G.M.H. Ltd., personnel and he has asked me if I knew of any G.M.H. employees, retiree members or otherwise, that participated, would they advise their names and experiences so that they can be included in the story.

He did mention some names but unfortunately they were not of our retirees and others had since passed on.

In an endeavour to assist Marcus, if any of you would be kind enough to let me know if you participated please supply your name to me and I will relay it on to Mr Marsden who will in turn contact you for advice as to your experience/s; your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

I have received from Bob Pulford, one of our retirees, information that Bob Hartland a Holden retiree (not a Retiree Club member) who was one of the South Australian employees who transferred to Melbourne and served as a Production Superintendent, Dandenong Body Shop, retiring after 46 years of service. He continued his active life by becoming Caretaker of Rosewood Downs Primary School in North Dandenong and has been doing so for more than 20 years.

They recently opened the school oval and at the official opening and, in appreciation of the work carried out by Bob, named it "The Robert Hartland Oval" as is clearly shown in the following photograph – congratulations Bob from all at the Holden Retirees' Club.



I recently received a copy of what I think is an excellent ditty on old age and I am sure that you will agree with me after you have read it, it is called "I'm fine, thank you" and it goes like this.

P'M FINE, THANK YOU.

There is nothing the matter with me,
I'm as healthy as I can be.

I have arthritis in both my knees, and
when I talk I talk with a wheeze.

My pulse is weak, and my blood is
thin, but I'm awfully well for the shape
I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet, or I
wouldn't be able to be on the street.

Sleep is denied me night after night,
but every morning I find I'm all right.

My memory is failing, my head's in a
spin, but I'm awfully well for the shape
I'm in.

The moral is this as my tale I unfold –
that for you and me who are growing old.

It's better to say "I'm fine" with a grin,
than to let folks know the shape we are in.

How do I know that my youth is all
spent? – well my "get up and go" has got
up and went.

But I really don't mind when I think
with a grin, of all the grand places my "get
up" has bin.

Old age is golden I've heard it said, but
sometimes I wonder as I get into bed.

With my ears in the drawer, my teeth
in a cup, my eyes on the table, until I wake
up.

Ere sleep overtakes me as I say to
myself, "is there anything else I could lay
on the shelf?"

When I was young my slippers were
red, I could kick my heels over my head.

When I was older my slippers were
blue, but still I could dance the whole
night through.

Now I am old, my slippers are black, I
walk to the store and I puff my way back.

I get up each morning and dust off my
wits, and pick up the paper and read the
"Obits".

If my name is still missing I know I'm
not dead...

So I have a good breakfast... and go
back to bed.

Anon.

That is all at the moment and I trust that the attendance at our next luncheon, Thursday, 2nd September, is as usual, most satisfactory.


Stan Halliday
SECRETARY

Holden Retirees' Club

- Honour Roll -

VICTORIAN MEMBERS WITH LONG SERVICE & DISTINGUISHED
ASSOCIATION WITH G.M.H.A. AND THE RETIREES' CLUB

OVER 70 YEARS

Jack Willis	Commenced	November 1926
Jack Burgan	Commenced Birkenhead	March 1927
Stan Suffren	Commenced	March 1928

OVER 65 YEARS

Bill Jobson	Commenced	November 1926*
Charlie Lennen	Commenced	November 1926*
Bob McIntosh	Commenced	January 1927*
Bob Bloss	Commenced	December 1932
Sid Warburton	Commenced	May 1933
Chris Stafford	Commenced	June 1933
Jack Kane	Commenced	November 1933
Harry Boylan	Commenced	January 1934
Eric Clark	Commenced	April 1934
Les Sutherland	Commenced	June 1934
Ted Bensley	Commenced	July 1934
George Wallis	Commenced	August 1934
Max O'Brien	Commenced	September 1934

OVER 60 YEARS

Jim Williams	Commenced	July 1933*
Jessie Hay (nee Pope)	Commenced	October 1933*
Tom Warburton	Commenced	October 1932*
Dave Prain	Commenced	February 1934*
Stan Wiseman	Commenced	October 1934
Mervyn Giles	Commenced	March 1935
Wally Clarebrough	Commenced	April 1935
Eric Prout	Commenced	May 1935
Vi Hall (nee Davidson)	Commenced	May 1935
Jim Lindsay	Commenced	May 1935*
Carmel Mulligan	Commenced	July 1935*
Jack Rawnsley	Commenced	January 1936
Frank Shetliffe	Commenced	January 1936*
Syd Holmes	Commenced	February 1936
Gordon McCann	Commenced	February 1936
Fred Findlay	Commenced	March 1936
Jack Murchie	Commenced	March 1936
Howard Smith	Commenced	June 1936

Holden Retirees' Club

- Honour Roll -

OVER 60 YEARS (*cont.*)

Len Martin	Commenced	July 1936
Keith Nicholson	Commenced	August 1936
Dan Kelly	Commenced	September 1936
Lorna Cheary (nee Mitchell)	Commenced	January 1937
Bruno Volpi	Commenced	March 1937
Graham Miller	Commenced	May 1937
Bill Maplesden	Commenced	June 1937
Bill McMahan	Commenced	July 1937
Jack Bourne	Commenced	August 1937
Basil Barrand	Commenced	January 1938
Jim McCance	Commenced	November 1938
Doris Springate	Commenced	February 1939
Les Colchin	Commenced	March 1939
Fred James	Commenced	March 1939
* Deceased		

CURRICULUM VITAE

A.G. (Tony) HYDE **Director Engineering & Design**

Tony Hyde joined General Motors Holden's in 1968 as an Engineer in Experimental Engineering and worked as a Test & Build Engineer on various projects until 1971.

From 1971 to 1973 Mr Hyde attended General Motors Institute and worked at Pontiac Motor Division in the Chassis Design & Development Group.

On return to Holden in late 1973 he was appointed Supervisor of Vehicle Test at the Holden Proving Ground. At the end of 1974 he returned to the technical Centre as a Senior Design Engineer of Suspension & Brakes.

In 1979 Mr Hyde was assigned to Adam Opel AG in Russelsheim, Germany as Resident Manager for Holden. Following this assignment he returned to Holden in 1981 as Assistant Staff Engineer in the Chassis Group.

A brief stint in Marketing as Manager of Technical Services followed in 1984/5 after which Mr Hyde was appointed Chassis Engineer covering all Chassis activities at Holden.

Following the 1986 reorganisation he became Manager of all Mechanical Engineering activities. From this he moved to Planning as Executive-In-Charge in 1990, and in 1994 to the position of Chief Engineer.

In July 1997 Tony Hyde was appointed Director of Engineering and Design.

Mr Hyde holds a Diploma of Mechanical Engineering and a General Motors Overseas Fellowship.

He is a member of Rossdale Golf Club and the Chevrolet Car Club of Victoria.

March 1999

Please Note: (from your committee)

At past meetings there has been a tendency for some of our members to talk among themselves while the guest speaker has been making their presentation. It is respectfully suggested that this practice be discontinued as a sign of courtesy to our speakers. Your cooperation would be appreciated... Thank you.