



HOLDEN

RETIREES' CLUB

NEWSLETTER No. 62

JANUARY 2005

With the first letter for 2005 we take this opportunity to wish you and your families a healthy and rewarding New Year.

Report on our 102nd Luncheon – December 2, 2004

President, Hugh Videon welcomed 268 members and guests to our Christmas luncheon well presented as usual by The Bentleigh Club. We had hoped to reach that magical 300 but hopefully 2005 will be the year!

Guests

Denny Mooney	– Chairman and Managing Director, Holden Limited and Guest Speaker
Amanda Weir	– National Manager – Community Relations, Corporate Affairs
Chris Hocking	– Promoter of Formula Vehicles powered by Holden
Murat Korkmaz	– Chairman and Managing Director's Driver

New Members

We welcomed 11 new members to our Club

Bill Coleman	– Inspector Plant 3, Fishermans Bend
Richard Grasby	– Materials Control, Fishermans Bend
Michael Gilerist	– W.W. Purchasing, Fishermans Bend
Bob Harris	– Engineering, Fishermans Bend
John Heywood	– I.T. Dandenong
Alan Jakubowicz	– Supply Department, Elizabeth
Joe Muratore	– Maintenance, Fishermans Bend
John Prichard	– Purchasing, Fishermans Bend
Ana Temiguian	– Engineering, Fishermans Bend
Josef Urek	– Experimental Engineering, Fishermans Bend
Lucy Vidulich	– Materials Management, Fishermans Bend

Ian Samuel, President: PO Box 2113, Cowes, Vic. 3922. Tel. 03 5956 8431

Leo Mahoney, Secretary: 30 Biscayne Drive, Mt Waverley, Vic. 3149. Tel/Fax 03 9802 4121

Apologies

There were 84 apologies from members all over Australia

Alex Andrews	Ian McInnes
John Bagshaw (NSW)	Mark McInnes (NSW)
Don Bowden	Lyle Mansfield
Frank Bartosy	Maurie McFarlane
Bob Beveridge	Len Martin
Ron Campion	Bill Maplesden
Don Cheyne	Jim McCance (Qld)
Cath Davies (UK)	Charlie Miller
Ida Dwyer	Graham Miller
John Edge	Dorrie Moore (WA)
George Edmunds	John Moore
Warwick Exton	Tom Molnar (NSW)
Des Fay	Warren Morriss (Qld)
Frank Fagarazzi	Garry Newsome (Qld)
Joe Felice (NSW)	Jim Nicholls
Paul Fontaine	Ed Orme
Don Grant	Bob Pulford
Keith Gregory	Joe Pulis
Peter Green	Eric Prout
Ted Greetham	Alistair Pearce
Lance Harvey (since died)	Merv Robinson
Mick Hannon	Bill Scott
John Harris	Don Scott-Wright (Qld)
Eric Hess (Qld)	Walter Scott (SA)
Ron Heath	John Schinasi (Qld)
Daryl Hornsby	Bill Serjeantson (NSW)
Jim Hatton (NSW)	Howard and Edna Smith
Patricia Howard	Harold Stevens
George Hammond	Doris Springate
Peter Janssen	Ray Stodden
Brian Jackson	Bob Sterling (WA)
Ray Jenner	John Tabone
Graham Johns	Ed Taylor (Qld)
Ron Kidd	Otto Tescher (since died)
David Lamden	Trevor Walsh
John Lawson	John Wallington
Wally Lauder	Alan Watkins
Peter Lord	Vic Webster
Com Littlehales	Maurie Wickes
Peter MacDonald	John Woods
Doug McLean	Colin Wytkin
Bill McMahan	

Obituaries

The President then announced those members who had died recently in addition to those detailed in our November newsletter.

Nick Fodor (Nov '04)	-	Engineering, Fishermans Bend
George Keel (Nov '04)	-	Finance, Fishermans Bend
E.J. (Snowy) Mitchell	-	Trim Department, Dandenong

The customary one minute's silence was observed.

Since our December luncheon we respectfully advise of the deaths of the following:

Lloyd Beck (Jan '05)	-	Manufacturing, Fishermans Bend
Ray Carrigg (Dec '04)	-	Finance, Fishermans Bend
Lance Harvey (Feb '05)	-	Finance Fishermans Bend
Ian Pados (Dec '04)	-	Production Engineering, Fishermans Bend
Otto Tescher (Feb '05)	-	Engineering, Fishermans Bend

Guest Speaker

President, Hugh Videon then introduced to the members for the first time, Denny Mooney, Holden Chairman and Managing Director.

Denny provided a thumbnail sketch of his background. Born one of ten children in Detroit, Michigan, studied engineering and joined Oldsmobile in Lansing where his father and grandfather also worked

He frankly discussed GM World Wide where in recent years many plants have been closed – including his beloved Oldsmobile but new and more technically innovative plants have opened.

Not all that long ago GM had over 50% of the US market. That is now only 28%. Market conditions are not easy and to stay on top we must have good engineering and good marketing.

He also indicated that in the near future Holden would again become G.M.H. to relate more to the world-wide family of General Motors

The members were most appreciative of his presentation and warmly supported the vote of thanks by incoming President, Ian Samuel.

Guest Comedian

The talent of Holden people is legendary in all kinds of fields and Bob Burgess entertained the members with some very amusing routines and we are sure a repeat performance could be expected at a future luncheon. Thanks, Bob.

Ian Samuel and Una Marcus then conducted the draw for many wonderful items provided by Amanda Webb of Corporate Affairs.

Golf

Final details for the annual golf tournament will be announced at our March luncheon but you can tentatively plan on Thursday March 17 at Heidelberg Golf Club.

Outstanding Annual Subscriptions

The response through the mail and at the December luncheon has been excellent but if you have overlooked your sub, then please mail it to:

Doug Cleary
6/285 Barkers Road
Kew Vic 3101

or

Bring it with you to the March luncheon.

On Display

In The Bentleigh Club gardens, we had on display the new CDX-1 Astra and a Formula 4 powered with the new V6 engine. Chris Hocking who promotes and develops these types of vehicles explained the details to many interested members and plans to use the vehicle to introduce formula racing to China.

Of Special Interest

Through Amanda Webb of Corporate Affairs we have received the following:

JOSEF GANZ AT HOLDEN

For a future book about the German automotive designer Josef Ganz (1898 – 1967) I'm trying to find people who knew him in his lifetime. Ganz lived in Victoria, Australia from 1951 to 1967 and worked as a design engineer at GM Holden from approximately 1955 to 1962.

Josef Ganz was a notable figure as he claimed to be the inventor of the Volkswagen. My research has revealed that Ganz did indeed develop the Volkswagen concept and technical design in Germany as early as the 1920's. He built two prototypes, the Ardie-Ganz (1930) and the Adler Maikäfer (1931), resulting in the production cars Standard Superior (1932) and Bubgartz Butz (1934). In 1928 Ganz called his design the "deutschen Volkswagen", which was also used to advertise the Standard Superior with Ganz his concept and the name

*Volkswagen were later copied by Hitler for the Volkswagen design by Ferdinand Porsche. Part of the established German motoring industry did not appreciate Ganz his attempts to introduce a cheap, comfortable and reliable people's car onto the market. He was very critical of conventional designs in his magazine **Motor-Kritik**. In 1933 Ganz suffered from a slander press campaign organized by Nazi industrialists and was arrested by the Gestapo. On top of these problems Ganz was of Jewish faith and his working life was destroyed by the Nazi's. He decided to leave Germany for Switzerland in 1934 because of serious threats to his life. He stayed in Switzerland until 1949, then two years in France and finally emigrated to Australia in 1951, where he called himself Joe Ganz. He first lived with Erna and Heta Jacobson at 33 Alma Road in St Kilda, Victoria. A short time later he moved to Flat 6 at 30 Williams Road in East Prahran, Victoria and his last address was Flat 3H at Edgewater Towers, 12 Marine Parade in St Kilda, Victoria. Ganz worked for a few years as an engineer and started at GM Holden in approximately 1955, probably in a (technical) design department. In 1962 he had to retire because of ill health. Ganz passed away in 1967 aged 69.*

I would like to ask anyone with memories about Josef Ganz to contact me. Also I'm very interested in any documents referring to or pictures of him. Parts of Ganz life are still not very clear, including his work for GM Holden. Also Ganz's vast archive containing many design drawings, letters, photographs, magazines etc., which was left by him after his death, is missing. Any information concerning Josef Ganz is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

*Paul Schilperoord
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The Netherlands*

Secretary's Note

If any member is able to assist then contact:

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who will coordinate a reply.

Next Luncheon

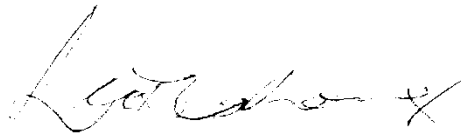
The next luncheon will be held at The Bentleigh Club, Yawla Street, Bentleigh on Thursday March 3rd, 2005 commencing at 12 noon. The price remains at \$18.00, a very reasonable cost. Drinks are available at bar prices.

Our guest speaker will be Mario Adamo whose subject will be "Holden's New Home" which is under construction in Salmon Street.

Mario is Purchasing Manager, Machinery and Equipment and Indirect Material. He has been with Holden for 3 years after working experience over the past 11 years with such companies as CUB and Pacific Dunlop

This should be a most interesting subject and is a great follow-up to Denny Mooney's talk at our December luncheon when he told us we must be innovative with first class engineering and marketing.

See you there!



Leo Mahoney

Secretary

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