



**HOLDEN**

## RETIREES' CLUB

*NEWSLETTER No. 70*

*FEBRUARY 2007*

Welcome to 2007 and our first newsletter for the year. We wish you and your families a very happy, healthy and rewarding new year.

### *Report on our 110<sup>th</sup> Luncheon – December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006*

President, Ian Samuel welcomed a slightly smaller group of 256 members and guests to The Bentleigh Club's special Christmas function. We will do all we can to reach the magical 300 this year but such a result is primarily up to you, the members.

#### *Guests*

Ian McCleave

– Executive Director, Planning and Program Management

Scott Sandefur

– Executive Director, Human Resources

Janelle Yeats

– Corporate Affairs

Michael Brewer

– Fineprint Productions for "People" Magazine

#### *New Members*

Our President then welcomed 10 new members.

Tony Corda

– Purchasing, Fishermans Bend

Bill Cummings

– Maintenance Plant 6 & 10, Fishermans Bend

Meg Fuhrmann

– Sales & Marketing, Fishermans Bend

Roger Jones

– Engineering, Fishermans Bend

Peter Lukey

– Data Processing, Dandenong

Dennis O'Brien

– Finance, Fishermans Bend

Earl Peppin

– Marketing, Fishermans Bend

Bob Stewart

– Engineering, Fishermans Bend

Michael Sullivan

– Human Resources, Fishermans Bend

John Wernham

– Plant & Equipment, The Valley & Acacia Ridge

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*

Again, a large number (65) of apologies from all around Australia.

Brian Alexander	Jim McCance (Qld)
Ron Anderson	John McIlwain
Roger Anderson	John Marshall
Alan Baker	Steve Markwell (Qld)
Ken Baker	Eddy Mankowski
John Bagshaw (NSW)	Len Martin
Geoff Bedford	Lilian Mavridis
Errol Broadhurst	Maria Matthews
Tony Brougham	Tony Mele
Don Bowden	John Morrison
John Car	Warren Morriss (Qld)
Kevin Cox	Graham Miller
Bill Cashmore	Dorrie Moore (W.Aust)
Bill Dalton	John Moore
Margôt Davis	Kevin Matthews (S.Aust)
Jon Dunning	Paul Muhlhauser
Ida Dwyer	Garry Newsome (Qld)
Norm Ellis	John Plunkett (Qld)
Joe Etulian	Clem Rogers
Frank Fagarazzi	Brian Rich
Joc Felice (NSW)	Hugo Saitta
Ted Greetham	Tony Saitta
Brian Griffin	Max Sanders
Peter Green	Howard Smith
Keith Gregory (Qld)	Norm Smith
Eric Hess (Qld)	Noel Simpson
Jim Hutton (Qld)	Doris Springate
Ern Ivanyi	Bob Sterling (W.Aust)
Peter Janssen	Ray Stodden
Brian Jackson	Ian Startup (NSW)
Bernie King	Ed Taylor (Qld)
David Lamden	Peter Thomas
	Ron West

### *Obituaries*

President Ian then announced the names of those members who had died recently additional to those already listed in our November newsletter.

Ray Goddin (Sept '06)

— Manufacturing, Fishermans Bend

The customary respectful silence was observed.

Since our Christmas luncheon we have also been advised of the deaths of the following members:

Maurie McFarlane (Dec '06)	- DISCO, Fishermans Bend
Doug Davis (Jan '07)	- NASCO, Dandenong
Ron Zimmerman (Jan '07)	- Production Engineering, Fishermans Bend
Cliff Orchard (Feb '07)	- Manufacturing Plants 2 & 6 Fishermans Bend, DISCO and Dandenong

**Guest Speaker**

It was a precise, powerful and most informative presentation by GM Holden Planning and Program Management Executive Director, Ian McCleave. His main points were:

VE Launch

- Biggest ever particularly with the joint launch of the WM Statesman.
- ESP (electronic stability programme) the most advanced safety feature since seat belts.
- The excellence of the young engineering talent involved.
- In a depressed market the VE is still holding its own.

Alternative Power Strategies

- Hydrogen power – perhaps 30-40 years away because of infrastructure problems e.g. service stations.
- Hybrid – very complex because of the number of components.
- Diesel – with recent refinements this will be the big advancement – and already is.

Captiva

Doing extremely well and already is second only to Ford's Territory.

Global Architecture

GM Holden is now one of the centres of excellence in the worldwide General Motors

structure. The GTO Pontiac was a case in point.

Ian's presentation was enthusiastically acclaimed.

After Ian's presentation Peter Pavey and Janelle Yeats had great fun distributing door prizes courtesy of Corporate Affairs.

**Holden Card Programme**

For those members who have a Holden Westpac Visa or Mastercard you should have been advised via your Westpac statement that changes have been made to the redemption values of some Holden vehicles.

These changes became effective on February 1, 2007 and the principal change is that the maximum rebate of \$3000 will only apply to specified models, viz Commodore, Adventra, HSV, Caprice, Statesman, Calais and Berlina.

Rebate levels on other Holden vehicles is as follows:

<b>\$1000</b>	<b>\$750</b>	<b>\$500</b>
Vectra	Astra	Barina
Tigra	Viva	
Captiva	Combo	
	Rodeo	

If you have any further questions regarding the changes then call the Holden Card Customer Service Team on 131 200 and full details are also at [www.westpac.com.au](http://www.westpac.com.au).

***Please Remember ...***

At the time of writing, Joanne Smith, our Corporate Affairs liaison for some years and friend to many Holden retirees is seriously ill after transplant surgery at the end of January. We wish her a speedy recovery.

***Subscriptions***

As usual, our subscription renewal is at a high level and although only \$2 it assists in covering a variety of expenses and also contributions to special charitable organizations.

If you haven't contributed this year (or even the last year or two!!) then mail to treasurer,

Doug Cleary,  
6/285 Barkers Road  
Kew 3101  
Ph (03) 9818 3485

***Statistical Trivia***

The retirees' Club has about 750 members with the breakdown:

Overseas	-	3
(South Africa, USA, New Zealand)		
Victoria	-	650
Queensland	-	32
South Australia	-	24
New South Wales	-	24
Western Australia	-	13

***On the Road***

Travelling Byron Bay way? Graeme McDonald and his wife, Sue run the Oasis Resort and Holden retirees would be most welcome at a preferred rate. Visit [www.byronbayoasisresort.com.au](http://www.byronbayoasisresort.com.au) or phone (02) 6685 7390. Graeme retired after 34 years of service at HSPO - QA Dandenong.

***Next Luncheon***

The next luncheon will be held at The Bentleigh Club, Yawla Street, Bentleigh on Thursday March 1, 2007 commencing at 12 noon. The cost will be \$20 payable at the venue.

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Laurence Sparke OAM Director, Holden Innovation Adjunct Professor of RMIT University.

Laurie Sparke is an engineering graduate from RMIT, and Deakin universities in Melbourne and Kettering University (GMI) in Michigan, and has studied and worked in America and in Germany. As chief Engineer of Holden Innovation, he is responsible for development of new technology, including development of vehicle safety systems, IT, environmentally friendly powertrains, and virtual engineering. Laurie is a member of the GM Global Safety Council, and the GM Global Advanced Technology Council, reflecting Holden's growing international focus. These international roles provide the opportunity to be involved in leading research activity around the world, and occasionally, the opportunity to demonstrate that Australian technology is world class. In particular, Holden is identified as a centre of expertise for side impact protection, and a government funded 5 year, side impact research program, in collaboration with Monash University Accident Research Centre, is producing world-leading results.

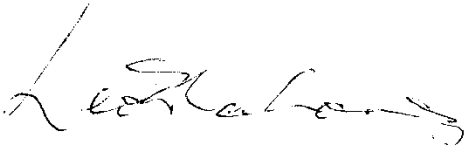
Laurie plans to speak to the following:

- Holden History
- Holden Innovation
- Safety Research
- VE Safety Performance
- Future Technologies
- Safety Tips

Sounds terrific! Be there.

Also present at our luncheon will be Karen Edwards, Volunteer Coordinator, Leukaemia Foundation for which Holden is a major sponsor. You may care to offer yourself as a volunteer driver?

Don't forget to bring your name tag and we look forward to your company on March 1.



Leo Mahoney

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