



**HOLDEN**

## RETIREES' CLUB

*NEWSLETTER No. 71*

*MAY 2007*

Our first luncheon for 2007 in February attracted an excellent attendance of 167 including 14 new members and guests.

### *Guests*

Dr. Laurie Sparke OAM

Karen Edwards

Scott Sandefur

Bill Grotz

Holly Cochrane

- Director, Holden Innovation and Adjunct Professor of RMIT University
- Leukaemia Foundation
- Executive Director, Human Resources
- Corporate Affairs
- Corporate Affairs

### *New Members*

Our President, Ian Samuel, then welcomed 14 new members.

Lino Airo-Farulla

Wagih Aziz

John Cole

Sel Cooper

Bill Cuthbertson

George Ghiocas

Alf Filia

Tony Kenna

Ivan Larsson

Graeme McDonald

Ron Magro

Pat Robinson

Greig Stewart

Dave Tasker

- Holden Engine Company, Fishermans Bend
- Foundry, Plant 14, Fishermans Bend
- Toolroom, Plant 10, Fishermans Bend
- Experimental Engineering, Fishermans Bend
- Toolroom, Plant 10, Fishermans Bend
- IGM, Administration, Fishermans Bend
- Industrial Engineering, Acacia Ridge, Qld
- Quality Control, Fishermans Bend
- Finance, Elizabeth S.A.
- HSPO-QA, Dandenong
- Materials Management, Fishermans Bend
- Industrial Engineer, Plant 10, Fishermans Bend
- Maintenance, Plant 16, Fishermans Bend
- Holden Engine Co., 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***

Again, a long list of 55 apologies.

John Bagshaw (now Qld)	Lyle Mansfield
Max Bell	Ed Matthews
Rod Bertram	Kevin Matthews
Geoff Bedford	Steve Markwell (Qld)
Roy Borrett	Ern Marsden (Qld)
Alex Chalmers	Geoff Miller
Phil Conroy	John Moore
Jon Dunning	Warren Morriss (Qld)
Bill Dalton (since died)	Bill Murrell (WA)
Warwick Exton	Jim McCance (Qld)
Norm Ellis	Peter Nathan
Frank Fagarazzi	Garry Newsome (Qld)
Bill Fitzgerald	Rob Newton
Joe Felice (NSW)	Mike Perry (NSW)
Paul Fontaine	Ian Startup (NSW)
Ted Greetham	Bob Sterling (WA)
Keith Gregory (Qld)	Harold Stevens
Brian Griffin	Walter Scott (Sth. Aust)
John Hallas	Joanne Smith
Eric Hess (Qld)	Howard Smith
Terry Hellier	Russell Smith (Sth. Aust)
Adrian Hobson (Qld)	Muriel Stockdale
Jim Hutton (Qld)	Ed Taylor (Qld)
Brian Jackson	Neil Westhorpe
David Lamden	Gerry Wright
Ivan Larsson (Sth. Aust)	Alan Watkins
Joe Lindner	Don Wylie
Peter Lukey	

### ***Obituaries***

President Ian Samuel then announced those members who had died recently in addition to those already listed in our February newsletter.

Allan Dunn (Jan '07)	- Finance, Woodville and Sales Fishermans Bend
Rob Lorgelly (Feb. '07)	- HSPO, Purchasing

The customary respectful silence was observed.

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

Bill Dalton (Apr. '07)	- Finance, Fishermans Bend
Les Goding (Apr. '07)	- Standards Plant 6, Fishermans Bend
Kevin Marmion (Apr. '07)	- Supply, Fishermans Bend
Arthur Ling (May '07)	- Experimental Engineering, Fishermans Bend

*Arthur Ling  
d. May 9, 2007*

Arthur joined Holden in August 1939 and had a very long career in Experimental Engineering.

It is worthy of note that THE No. 1 Holden hand built in Detroit in 1946 was owned by Arthur after it had finished its service with GMH. Arthur then sold it to his brother-in-law Bill Vickery who in turn sold it Des Kelly whose family had the Holden dealership in Morwell. There it remained for about 40 years when Graeme Strongman and his son, Gavin, got their hands on it and meticulously restored it to its original specification. You may remember that we had the car on display at our September luncheon in 2001. The car is now in the National Museum in Canberra.

Arthur was in his 90<sup>th</sup> year.

**Guest Speaker**

President, Ian Samuel, then introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Laurie Sparke OAM who gave us a wonderful presentation starting with the beginning of J.A. Holden in the leather business in 1852 through to supplying car bodies to General Motors in 1924 then to the merger into GMH in 1931.

Laurie is proficient in many disciplines and safety is one of his top fortes. His study into front and side impact issues are top world technology and particularly with the side impact protection Holden is identified as the centre of expertise.

The safety features of the new VE Commodore make it the best in the world – at least there is none better! The ESP (Electronic Stability Programme) results in a 30% reduction in crashes.

On a more personal basis, the do's and don'ts of safety should include:

- A. Parking lights on during daytime driving.
- B. No tinted glass.
- C. Children in the back seat.
- D. Check your motoring route and have left turns as much as possible.

Many questions followed Laurie's presentation and Vice President, Peter Pavay's vote of thanks was greeted with generous acclamation.

Peter, with the able assistance of Holly Cochrane, then proceeded with the distribution of the door prizes, generously provided by Corporate Affairs.

**Leukaemia Foundation**

We were happy to welcome Karen Edwards, Volunteer Coordinator with the Leukaemia Foundation and together with our own retiree volunteer, Warwick Lindsay, both outlined the patient transport service which generally requires a volunteer to drive patients to appointments one day per fortnight. Would you like to volunteer? Contact Karen at:

44 Ellingworth Parade  
Boxhill  
Ph: 9949 5814

GM Holden is the major sponsor for the Foundation.

### ***Retiree's Golf Day***

The annual GMH Retirees' Golf Day for 2007 was held on Thursday, March 15 and again, this year, it was fully arranged by Gordon Holden at the Heidelberg Golf Club where he is a member and Gordon also organized all the prizes, and made the bookings and the final presentation. Gordon also kindly provided a new larger perpetual trophy which will last many years into the future.

The conditions on the day were sunny and warm and perfect for golf and I am happy to report that of the five previous winners and the two previous Club Presidents who played, I was lucky enough, with 43 stableford points, to stay ahead of Gordon McGilvray, then Don Cheyne, and to have my name on the trophy for the third time.

Hugh Videion, who continues to threaten the leaders each year followed, with Gordon Holden, Dave Birrell and John Car in hot pursuit. Graham Hales was the happy(?) winner of this year's N.A.G.A. prize.

Afterwards, at the 19<sup>th</sup> hole Gordon Holden, presented prizes, which had again been supplied by Holden's Corporate Affairs. Many thanks to Holly Cochrane for the kind provision of these prizes

I cannot remember the notable things that happened to report except that Gordon said that Bill Dobell sunk a 30 foot putt for a birdie on the last hole. I am sure that many other such memorable things happened on this enjoyable day of golf.

*(Report courtesy John Lacey)*

### ***Another Golfing Story...***

As we have often said before, our members are involved in many and varied "after work" activities, and here is another example – this time with our current President, Ian Samuel.

#### **CLUB ROUNDS UP MEMBERS**

A golfing group of Pinewood Primary School dads still get together more than a decade after their children left the school.

The Pinewood fathers' group enjoyed each other's company so much they decided to form a social golf club when their children moved into high school.

The club, which started in 1991, still has more than 20 members who catch up for a round at 11 competitions each year.

Ian Samuel, who has won the club championship for three consecutive years, travels from Cowes on Phillip Island to keep in contact with fellow dads.

"We have an annual event but we still have handicaps, it's run as a normal golf club," Mr. Samuel said.

Mr. Samuel won the latest championship when the club played at Cobram-Barooga on the Murray River.

The club is looking for more members.

For details, phone Bill Duff on 9802 5873

*(Report courtesy Waverley Leader  
March 6, 2007)*

### ***An Update...***

In our last newsletter we mentioned that our one-time Corporate Affairs liaison, Joanne Smith, had undergone transplant surgery. She had a very torrid time but we are pleased to report that she is now at the top of her game.

### ***Special Inclusion***

With this newsletter is an updated Honour Roll with the addition (belated!) of Don Colwell, Laboratory, and Allan Chaplin, Manufacturing, both additions to the "over 60's".

### ***Next Luncheon***

The next luncheon will be held at the Bentleigh Club, Yawla Street, Bentleigh on Thursday, June 7, 2007 commencing at 12 noon. The cost is \$20 payable at the door.

Our guest speaker will be Professor Ian Johnston AM and his subject will be "Where Road Safety Is At and Where It Is Heading".

Ian Johnston is a psychologist with a PhD in human factors. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, an Associate Editor of the international journal *Accident Analysis and Prevention* and a Life Member of the Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia.

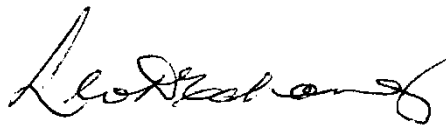
Ian's history in road safety stretches back to 1972, with the Australian federal government, the Victorian state government, an R&D company and academia. Ian was appointed Director of the internationally renowned Monash University Accident Research Centre in May 2001 and he retired from full time work at the end of 2006. He has advised regional and national governments in several countries on road safety strategy and policy and has a keen interest in technology transfer within the Asia-Pacific region.

Ian has won several awards, both national and international, for his work in safety and has published extensively. He received an Order of Australia in January 2007 for his services to transport safety and to professional development in the region.

His presentation will complement Laurie Sparke's from our last luncheon.

Don't forget your name tag – we'll give you one if this is your first luncheon.

A great day is assured ... see you there!



Leo Mahoney  
Secretary

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# Holden Retirees' Club

## - Honour Roll -

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

### OVER 75 YEARS

Jack Willis	Commenced	November 1926*
Stan Suffren	Commenced	March 1928

### OVER 70 YEARS

Jack Burgan	Commenced Birkenhead	March 1927*
Chris Stafford	Commenced	June 1933*
Jack Kane	Commenced	November 1933
Harry Boylan	Commenced	January 1934
Eric Clark	Commenced	April 1934
George Wallis	Commenced	August 1934
Max O'Brien	Commenced	September 1934
Stan Wiseman	Commenced	October 1934
Eric Prout	Commenced	May 1935*
Vi Hall (nee Davidson)	Commenced	May 1935
Jack Rawnsley	Commenced	January 1936
Fred Findlay	Commenced	March 1936
Jack Murchie	Commenced	March 1936
Howard Smith	Commenced	June 1936*
Len Martin	Commenced	July 1936
Keith Nicholson	Commenced	August 1936
Lorna Cheary (nee Mitchell)	Commenced	January 1937
Graham Miller	Commenced	May 1937

### OVER 65 YEARS

Bill Jobson	Commenced	November 1926*
Sid Warburton	Commenced	May 1933*
Ted Bensley	Commenced	July 1934*
Mervyn Giles	Commenced	March 1935*
Wally Clarebrough	Commenced	April 1935*
Jack Heenan	Commenced	September 1935*
Syd Holmes	Commenced	February 1936*
Gordon McCann	Commenced	February 1936*
Dan Kelly	Commenced	September 1936*
Bill Maplesden	Commenced	June 1937*
Bill McMahan	Commenced	July 1937*
Phil Johnson	Commenced	December 1937
Jim McCance	Commenced	November 1938
Chris Breen	Commenced	January 1939*
Doris Springate	Commenced	February 1939

# Holden Retirees' Club

## - Honour Roll -

### OVER 65 YEARS (cont...)

Les Colechin	Commenced	March 1939*
Fred James	Commenced	March 1939
Kevin Heys	Commenced	May 1939*
Doug Hall	Commenced	August 1939
Arthur Ling	Commenced	August 1939*
Tom Godden	Commenced	January 1940*
Doug Davis	Commenced	September 1940*
Peter Williams	Commenced	December 1940
Wally Ames	Commenced	January 1941
Geoff Grieve	Commenced	January 1941
Ron Bousfield	Commenced	May 1941
Don MacDougall	Commenced	May 1941
Audrey Banner	Commenced	August 1941
John McIlwain	Commenced	September 1941
Cliff Orchard	Commenced	February 1942*

### OVER 60 YEARS

Dave Prain	Commenced	February 1934*
Carmel Mulligan	Commenced	July 1935*
Ken Couper	Commenced	June 1936*
Bruno Volpi	Commenced	March 1937*
Basil Barrand	Commenced	January 1938*
Bob Wright	Commenced	July 1940*
George Hammond	Commenced	February 1942*
Otto Tescher	Commenced	July 1942*
Mick Hannon	Commenced	November 1942*
Maurie Wickes	Commenced	November 1942*
Keith Gregory	Commenced	February 1943
Charles Paterson	Commenced	March 1943*
Arthur Bollard	Commenced	May 1943
Eric Hogben	Commenced	January 1944*
Don Colwell	Commenced	February 1944
Alex Chalmers	Commenced	January 1945
Ivan Rilling	Commenced	January 1945
Colin McLean	Commenced	February 1945
Noel Simpson	Commenced	March 1945
Bruce Arnold	Commenced	July 1945
Nils Fleming	Commenced	January 1946
Gordon Hill	Commenced	April 1946
Allan Chaplin	Commenced	June 1947

\* Deceased