



# NORTHSIDE NEWS

February 2024

## Committee Members

2023-2024

President	Col Stirling	<a href="mailto:president.bnchc@gmail.com">president.bnchc@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Darren Ryan	<a href="mailto:vicepresident.bnchc@gmail.com">vicepresident.bnchc@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Lucy Ryan	<a href="mailto:secretary1.bnchc@gmail.com">secretary1.bnchc@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Cate Bowdler	<a href="mailto:treasurer.bnchc@gmail.com">treasurer.bnchc@gmail.com</a>
QHMC & AEHF Delegate	Darren Ryan	<a href="mailto:delegate.bnchc@gmail.com">delegate.bnchc@gmail.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Murray Bassett	<a href="mailto:magazine.bnchc@gmail.com">magazine.bnchc@gmail.com</a>
Website Coordinator	Murray Bassett	<a href="mailto:website.bnchc@gmail.com">website.bnchc@gmail.com</a>

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**Email:** [info@classicholden.club](mailto:info@classicholden.club)

**Website:** [www.classicholden.club](http://www.classicholden.club)

**Meetings:** 7:30pm, second Wednesday of the month, at **Kallangur Tavern, 1517 Anzac Ave Kallangur.**

**Next meetings:** 14 February 2024, 13 March 2024

### Editorial

*Hello all,*

*I have received a few members' history and pictures of their cars. Jules is featured this month*

*Will each member please provide (by email to [magazine.bnchc@gmail.com](mailto:magazine.bnchc@gmail.com)) a brief history and picture of their car so that a car can be featured in each month's magazine?*

*At the December meeting a vote was taken and carried to establish a club [Facebook page](#). If you are interested, request to join making sure to quote your club member number and agree to the group rules.*

*If you would like to have your birthday published in the magazine, please let me know your day and month of birth. Please also let me know if you are not interested in having your Birthday published.*

*Cheers*

*Muz*

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

BRISBANE NORTHSIDE CLASSIC HOLDEN CLUB INC.

**MEETING OPENED:** 11.15am

**MEMBERS:** 30

**APOLOGIES:** Bonnie Flaherty, Michael Bishop, Emiel Huizer,  
Peter & Rae Gibling

**VISITORS:** Paul Malyan's Wife, Colin Stirling's Daughter,  
Steve Robertson's wife.

### MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETING:

Moved by Colin Stirling 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara Benvenuti

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Nil  
Moved by Col Stirling 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Collins

**TREASURERS REPORT:**  
Presented by Cate Bowdler 2<sup>nd</sup> by Allan Benvenuti

Matched and balanced.

Steve Collins owed \$22.00 for ice for the Christmas Party.

Allan Benvenuti owed \$6.60 for embroidery on a shirt.

Cate Bowdler owed \$300.00 for cash raffle prizes for the Christmas Party.

Lucy Ryan owed \$600.00 for catering, drinks etc for the Christmas Party.

**AEHF REPORT:** Nil

**QHMC REPORT:** Logbook report was concluded and emailed to all Members.

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

Two new members have submitted their membership forms and paid their fees – Ken and Lucy Mortensen. They couldn't attend today due to other commitments. We will hope to vote them in at meeting in February.

Moved by Col Stirling

2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Ladlay

**CLUB RUNS:**

26<sup>th</sup> January Australia Day – Caboolture Historical Village – more info to come.

26<sup>th</sup> January Australia Day – Ormiston State School.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

A discussion was had with all members present, on the pros and cons of having a Facebook Page for the club. It was a joint collected vote of YES from everyone to have this new platform. Murray Bassett will endeavour to have this up and running.

Just a reminder that we have our Monthly meetings (every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month, 7.30pm) at the Kallangur Tavern. You can join their ALH Club and receive a discount for meals and drinks. The points are transferred back to our Club. Many venues across the country use the ALH system. Thankyou Allan Benvenuti for reminding us of this.

Col Stirling mentioned about the different tiers of discounts you can receive if you join Shannons Insurance. Pop onto their website and have a look if this appeals to you.

Lucy Ryan is going to look into obtaining prices/designs on new sunsafe shirts, hats, caps and stickers for the club. An update will be presented at the February meeting in the New Year.

Steve Robertson advised about new items being listed on the Rare Spares website.

Londa Gribble (in memory of her late husband Eddie Gribble) kindly donated a \$50.00 Bunnings voucher to the club. She requested it to be raffled at the first meeting of the year in February 2024. A huge thankyou to Londa for this kind, heartwarming gift.

Thankyou to Lucy and Darren Ryan for hosting the Christmas Party at their home. It was a huge success and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Moved by Col Stirling

2<sup>nd</sup> by Everyone

**THOPHY PRESENTATION WINNERS:**

**BEST CLUB MEMBER 2023 – Awarded on points**

Murray Bassett

**ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD 2023 – Actively working of a project**

Darren Ryan

**COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2023**

Steve Collins

**RAFFLE:**

**CASH RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS:**

\$20.00	Darren Ryan
\$40.00	Colin Stirling (donated back and redrawn) won by Lenore Palmer
\$60.00	Rowan Flaherty
\$80.00	Colin Stirling
\$100.00	Colin Stirling (donated back and redrawn) won by Maree Auriti

**LUCKY DOOR PRIZES:**

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Colin Stirling  | 11. Rowan Flaherty    |
| 2. Rowan Flaherty  | 12. Kerry Fenech      |
| 3. Tim Leon's wife | 13. Maree Auriti      |
| 4. Col Stirling    | 14. Bernice Benvenuti |
| 5. Darren Ryan     | 15. Maree Auriti      |
| 6. Kerry Fenech    | 16. Steve Robertson   |
| 7. Andrew Ladlay   | 17. Colin Stirling    |
| 8. Darren Ryan     | 18. Steve Collins     |
| 9. Allan Benvenuti |                       |
| 10. Colin Stirling |                       |

**GUESS THE SNAKES IN THE LOLLY JAR: total 135**

Steve Robertson was the winner with a guess of 136!

**SWAP AND SELL:**

See details in club magazine.

**MEETING CLOSED: 12.15pm**

**PRESIDENT:** Colin Stirling

**SECRETARY:** Lucy Ryan



**President's Report**

Welcome back to all out members, hope you had a wonderful break with family and friends

Our first meeting for 2024 is just around the corner, so I am hoping for a good turn up on the night and plenty of feedback or suggestion on things we can implement this year or simply improve where we can. Massive call out to Muz, the face book page is humming and plenty of news stores, links and information for our members. If you are not a face book user, that's ok, I am sure we can navigate this together if you are keen to get on board.

A number of the members spent the day at Caboolture historical village to celebrate Australia day with a display of our member's cars, big thanks to all that attended and to Lucy for the snacks and shelter.

As always we are looking to pencil in events each month, so please have a think about some runs that we can do or suggestions from the Facebook group for upcoming car events.

Short and sweet from me, looking forward to catching up with you all.

Safe cruising

Regards

Colin

## **Club Runs**

### **Regular runs and events**

- Petrie Markets Run - Every Friday night, Dayboro Rd, Petrie

### **QHMC runs and events**

Saturday 9 & 10 March 2024

Warwick Veteran and Vintage Vehicle Club Inc.

50th Anniversary Rally

### **February**

Saturday 17 February

Early Holdens Sunshine Coast Cruise

Meeting at the Cooroy Hotel at 8:00am for a 9:00am departure

### **March**

Coolum Primary State School P&C proudly presents



**All Car & Bike Show**  
**Extravaganza**  
**Sunday 17th March 9am**

GREAT FOOD | RIDES | STALLS | TROPHIES

 Registration for entrants 7am-9am  
Gates open 9am

 Coolum SS oval  
Entrance via Barnes Lane

Calling all car and motorbike enthusiasts! Join us for an unforgettable experience at our first ever Car & Bike Show, raising money for our much needed senior playground. Trophy presentation and close of event 1.30pm  
Please email [pandc@coolumss.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@coolumss.eq.edu.au) for further information.



**Entrants and General public \$5**  
**Kids Under 12 Free**

*Raising money for a senior playground*

## Birthdays

Bonnie Flaherty – 1 February  
Cate Bowdler – 15 February  
Lucy Ryan – 22 February  
Maree Auriti – 27 February  
Bernice Benvenuti – 5 March  
Barbara Benvenuti – 14 March  
Ennio Auriti – 27 March  
Vince Granahan – 29 March

If your birthday has not been published, please advise the editor by email to [magazine.bnchc@gmail.com](mailto:magazine.bnchc@gmail.com)

## Trivia

- By the time the FC series was released, Holden's market share was over 50%.

- Holden started exporting to New Zealand in 1954.
- The VC Commodore was the first model to receive the upgraded Blue XT5 engine.

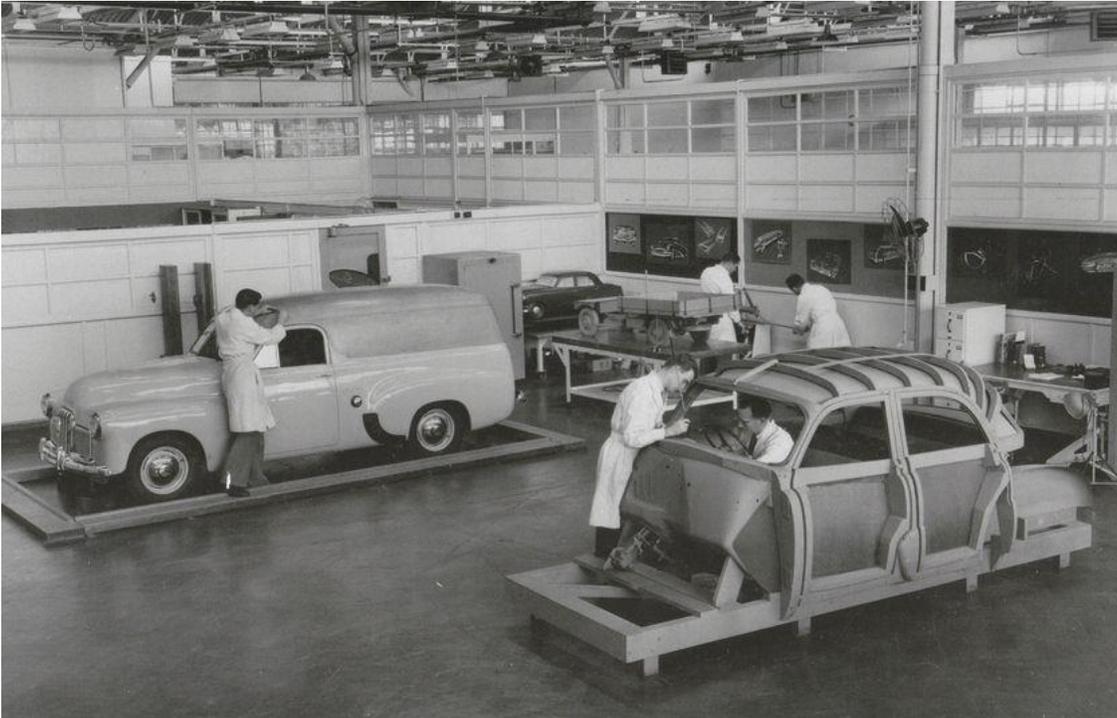
**YOU'RE A MAN,  
YOU NATURALLY  
WANT A MAN'S CAR  
AND YOUR WOMAN  
IS A WOMAN  
AND WANTS LUXURY**

If you enjoy a man's car, drive a Monaro LS. Beneath its sleek big windowed two-door shape is a smooth sure-precision instrument with eager reliable power. That's for a man. For your woman there's generous luxury that will last. Wide easy seats. Durable soft upholstery. Rich carpets. And plenty of quiet. Enjoy your driving. Drive a luxury Monaro.

**HOLDEN MONARO LS**  
The great way to move.

General Motors Holden's Sales Pty. Limited. H 212





Holden FX Panel van Concept that never was and Grill assembly line

## Member's Cars

### Jules Knight FJ Holden Panel Wagon Assembled March 1957

I had been without an FJ Holden for 17 years and in 2015 while repainting my Mustang GT with David Johnson, the Holden bug bit again. I don't know why, but just had to have another. Of the 3 FJ Holden models, I am not a fan of the Sedan, I like the Utility, but love the Panel Van. The Van is the rarest, with 6631 plus 1191 RPO 265 Bakers Vans. That brings the total to 7822. Don Loffler and I have discussed the numbers, less than 5% were Vans. There was only 1 FJ Station Wagon built by General Motors Holdens made as a styling exercise. At the 1990 Nationals, the owners of the station wagon were kind enough to let me look over, under, in and at everything on the car. 169,969 FJ Holdens were made.

From 1981, I would visit club member Ron Goodhew who was Sherwood mechanic. His customer Albert Stiller of Graceville had one of the rare 2 door FJ Panel Wagons. It was light blue, made by NSW Holden Dealer/coach builder Stacks of York Street Sydney. These Vans were also converted in Melbourne by Cordell Body Builders. Think of the modern day HSV or HDT. Same dog, different eyebrows! Of the 4 Panel Wagons remaining, there is Albert's now in Perth, two in Sydney and mine in Brisbane. Rare.

At the time I was interested to buy back in, online I saw a Panel Wagon for sale in Sydney. This green FJ was originally from Melbourne, living across the road from Harry Firth who owned HDT. It was made in the last 70 FJ Holdens, alongside the new FE Holden. It was Ocean Mist Green in colour, fully assembled in March 1957 and a hybrid with some FE parts originally installed such as air cleaner, fuel pipes, seat adjuster, hood lining material, plastic wiring harness and other items from the parts bin. The seller maintained that "it only needs inner and outer sills". That was so not true! Sills, floors, number 1 cross members, firewall repairs, radiator support panel, wheel arches and the list went on. It took months of work. The lesson here is to not believe a seller at all.

The Panel Wagon specification is a two-door panel van, split front seat, seat hinges installed, cabin floor extended, cargo floor shortened, bulkhead removed, internal sides reprofiled, rear dicky seat installed, full hood lining, spare wheel wall mounted and fuel tank repositioned to the spare wheel compartment.

My late father Julius during the 50s had FJ Holdens, the job became known as Project Julius in his honour. He always loved the cars that I finished. To tell my children how to look after the Panel Wagon in the future, as well as about Holden, I post talks on YouTube. My audience is my 3 children, but many folks seem to enjoy the updates. There are about 350 subscribers on YouTube and another 2000 on Facebook at Jive Talking Garage.

When I bought the FJ and brought it back from Sydney, it was delivered the next day to Michael and Emiel for a week. It had a lot of love and attention, 3 oil changes, straightened push rods, new plugs, fresh fuel, adjusted points and carburettor. It started on the 4<sup>th</sup> go and this is posted on YouTube.

When it came time to load it up to the trailer which was on the left hand side of the property, Michael absconded with the FJ down the street to take it for a maiden voyage☺. No brakes were matched with no synchro cones. Crunch crunch was all that was heard as it went into second gear. This was fixed with a new gear box. I then hid the Wagon at Basil's garage while they were away for a few months. We were building a new house, so work on the car just had to wait until the money caught up and children finished schooling.

The metal repair work was such a big project. I fabricated many pieces by hand and kept a photo diary of my progress on Jive Talking Garage. A lot of help was received from my mate Dan the Welder. He was a magician with metal. After the welding was supposed to be finished, the chassis, firewall and front clip were sandblasted. The blast revealed a need for more rust removal and welding.

My younger son Lachie helped me source a whole set of running gear that I could reconditioned in advance then

transplanted when the time came. After getting the FJ back, I was ably assisted by my mate of 40 years Russell Tronc, who helped me with anything and everything, including front and rear end, engine and gear box installation to name a few.

The only thing that went wrong was a stuck rear brake drum. A phone call to Michael and Emiel this resulted in the reply, "Don't touch it, we will get the car on Tuesday afternoon". Until the phone call, Russell and I wrestled with it for 3 hours. They had it moving in 20 minutes! Emiel had already repaired my wiring harness, so he wanted to install that and the new distributor, but he did so much more to help me. Totally going over the car to ensure that it was safe to drive. Michael was a great help with brake lines, cutting cargo runners to size, cargo panels and anything else as usual. They also helped me fit the rear windscreen and many other items. Even my Melbourne mate Scotty Woodbridge sourced a headlight set for me. My son Nathan helped me paint components. The Wagon still had a lot of ratty looking patches on it from our repairs, out came the spray gun so I put colour on the quarter panels, doors, lower grill panel and guards. Now it looked acceptable.

Project Julius was taking shape, moving from one thing a day to 10 then 15. Crawling into bed exhausted at the end of every night became the norm. My poor wife Tracey was very patient with me during this time, and her little black poodle would come with me to the welder's shed every time. He became known as Supervisor Louis. Louis got to play with the dogs there and had so much fun. The FJ was registered on December 16 last year, ready for the Cooma Nationals trip on Boxing Day. My family contracted Covid-19 on Christmas Day. Forget about going to the Nationals.

The Panel Wagon is finished underneath and has an acceptable engine bay. After 3 years on order, I now have the correct green water wave hood lining material. Next year I would like to retrim the FJ. It needs seats, door cards, full hood lining and new cargo boards.

The next tasks are to prepare new guards and the rest of the bodywork, then preparation for spray painting at home. I won't be going for a show paint job, but a factory paint job. I realise that it is a special vehicle, and I am known for my accessories. I have around 100 to be fitted to the car. Everything from heater, mirrors, ornamental jewels, coolaide cushions, demisters, parcel shelf, radio, arm rests, horn ring, twin horns, Nasco wind screen squirter kit, lighter, scratch plates, cargo lights, military style bumperettes, Perspex sunvisor, weather shield and the list goes on and on.

The project is 60% complete and it has been a long journey with more work to come. Next there is some roof rust to repair. My heartfelt thanks go to everyone who has helped me so far. I am very happy with the result. And so is Supervisor Louis.





## Club Merchandise



### Club polo shirt

Old stock - \$43.00 – sizes XL and 2XL

New stock - \$52.00 – size L

## Classifieds

### For sale:

- 2 original "Jiffy" Annexes. \$100 each  
Made to use with Holden Commodores. Original from Gold Coast "Jiffy" Manufacturers. Both have poles and ropes.
- Original EH or EK Holden Utility tonneau cover in good order. \$100  
Located Gayndah. Phone Wendy 0428 988 108 or email [wendykirk55@gmail.com](mailto:wendykirk55@gmail.com)

