

Buick Owners Club of WA (Inc.)

2009 Events Report presented at the AGM

Looking back on this last year, we had again 15 scheduled events, not including AGM's, but including General Meetings which have normally had a run attached to them. In addition there were a number of mid week runs organised for those that could attend.

If we look briefly at the runs that were organised, it may remind members of the past year.

Running in calendar order, we started the year with a run in August down to Ridley's GM collection in Bertram. The Sept run was planned to head out to Walyunga Nat Park but due to the very wet day we only got as far as a cosy coffee shop in Grt Northern Hwy, which in retrospect was a very wise move as the day did not improve. In Oct we had a meeting a Les and June Woodruff's "House of Buicks" which is always popular.

In Nov some members joined in on the Brockwell run which went via the Railway Museum through to the narrow streets of Ellenbrook before ending up at Whiteman Park.

The GM day in Nov was well supported even though again it was in blustery wet conditions at times, with the enterprising store holder selling chamois's doing very well as the serious owners tried to keep their cars dry and shiny. We finished off the calendar year with a great turn out again at the Café D'Vine in Midland for our Christmas Lunch.

We started 2009 with our traditional twilight run, this time including a Drive In night. We invited the Cadillac La Salle club and while I cannot remember the movie, I can recall the impressive line up of vehicles as they cruised up the coast in convoy that afternoon. We finished off January with a General Meeting at the Garrett Rd Reserve which proved a cool pleasant location on a hot afternoon.

In Feb some members joined in on Big Al's Poker Run, where Buicks were well represented in the winners circle that evening. The next morning was the Valentines day Breakfast at Buick park. In March we again had a good turn out at the Classic Car show at Whiteman Park where a large shady tree provided a great base for the day for members displaying vehicles and others that dropped in for a chat.

Our recent May run on the National Heritage Motoring day was up to Lake Lechenaultia. Again we had a very impressive turn out of Buicks on this day. Our last outing was to the Pinjarra Festival on the June long weekend.

The other 2 events this year were the Spring and Autumn runs. In Oct members had a 3 day weekend visiting the wheat belt staying overnight at Merredin and then at Narrogin. In April this year a contingent went down to Albany and Mt Barker, joining in with the Dawn Service at the top of Mt Clarence on Anzac morning. Both of these long weekends were well attended and provided memorable experiences and great opportunities for socialising. It is pleasing to see the support these runs attract, both from those attending and those organising the events, organising accommodation, the routes and collecting of moneys etc. Without this support the events could not run.

In addition last year a contingent of members, with and with out vehicles, participated in the Buick Nationals in Qld, again with some members driving both ways. This shows the commitment of all these members that attended as it is not a cheap exercise from this side of the country whichever way you travel, particularly when some come back with more vehicles than they went over with!!

The committee has continued to try and be mindful of the need to plan runs to cater for all ages of vehicles, from the older vehicles to the more modern vehicles better suited to longer drives, and to suit all interests. While each event may not suit everyone, we do try to mix up the runs to cater for all. The numbers of members and Buicks turning up on the

runs it indicates we must be getting the mix pretty right, however if you are not happy or have some suggestions, please let a committee member know so we can do something about it.

I would like to thank all members who have helped out in organising trips or planning runs. It was previously thought by some that all runs needed to be meticulously planned, with members having driven the route to check it out etc before hand. When organising a special event such as the Nationals etc, we do need to have everything spot on and double checked, however we also need to be accepting of the demands on members time and recognise it is better to have more people prepared to have a go at organising a run, rather than have every run perfectly mapped. We have seen recently with the use of good maps, and even other assistance through the internet for some, that members can organise runs with less time and effort "remotely". Most members are happy to follow along a planned trip and take it as it comes, with a bit of flexibility if required. We do not run mystery trips so in all cases members know where we plan to end up, and if they do get lost they can just go directly to the destination. We have not lost anyone yet to my knowledge! As always, the more we can share around the tasks such as planning runs, the more we share the work load and the club will continue to get stronger from it.

Lastly I would like to thank all the committee for their assistance this year and to all members and the committee for their support over my past 4 years as events coordinator. We are very fortunate to have a number of members always ready to volunteer to organise the various runs and events throughout the year. Again if anyone is ever able to help out in organising any event, please let the committee know as it does share the work load around.

Thank You,

Alan Hunt

Events Coordinator July 6th 2008