

BUICKS OFF TO THE DRIVE-IN

Because of the usual high temperatures in Western Australia in January, a daytime run is too uncomfortable for cars and their occupants. It was decided to repeat last January's twilight beach run with the added attraction of taking the cars to a drive-in. Alan and Ros Hunt had checked out the Galaxy Drive-In near where they live and suggested this venue.

Those attending were:

Peter and Bev Nicholson	'35 8/40 Buick Sedan
Jim and Beryl Donis and kids	'48 56S Buick Sedanette
Alan, Ros Hunt and girls	'55 Buick Century
Cheryl and Don McDermid	'65 Buick Coupe
John and Lorraine Padgett	'68 Buick Riviera
Tony, Marny Howe & Mark	'71 Buick Boattail
Alan, Lois Haime & Ethan	'65 Cadillac Convertible
Daniel Pinnington & kids	'59 Cadillac Convertible (visitor)
Paul and Josie Dickson	Modern
Scott and Sherren Barker	Modern.

Meeting point was outside B-shed on the Fremantle Wharf. Some of the group took advantage of being early and ate at various spots near the wharf. The Superstar Leo was berthed at the north wharf and even though it looked big and awesome, still looked like a sheep ship for people.

The Fremantle doctor was in and was very refreshing after a very hot day. Chocks away at 6.30 p.m and the cars took their positions in the line. Leading was Alan Haime giving his newly acquired silver blue Caddie an outing, followed by Daniel Pinnington in his pink Caddie and the Buicks definitely holding their own as far as looks went.

We had all stopped at a red light near a car yard and one of the car salesman (no doubt flashing a gold tooth) asked Daniel if he would trade his car in on a Holden Astra! Obviously a joke as this model Caddie fetches six figures.

The drive up through the cafe strip at Cottesloe entertained the locals who all seemed to be out either eating or exercising along the beach. This time of the evening there was a lovely pink light which is the closest we ever come to a twilight with our Mediterranean climate. All the way up the coast there were people walking all shapes of dogs, all shapes of people come to that! There is no doubt that all ages of people appreciate the American cars with everything from thumbs up, appreciative nods and even people yelling out "Great cars!".

The Nicholsons were parked by the edge of the road at Scarborough and slotted into the queue as did the Donis bunch, also waiting alongside the road to join the run as we came up the coast.

The Hunts had gone on ahead and had booked us a row at the drive-in. It was certainly deja vu pulling into a drive-in, most of us were taken back many years to our youth when it was the done thing to go to the drive-in in a Yank tank.

A picnic tea was enjoyed by most of us with a cold drink. All too soon the lights dimmed and speakers had to be connected to AM radio stations on the cars.

It was nice to have the freedom to pour yourself a coffee and comment on the movies without being shushed. I think most of us had got out of the habit of seeing a double bill, but of course this used to be norm at movies back in the sepia tinted days.

Many thanks to the Hunts for their help in organising this run. Safe to say everyone thoroughly enjoyed the easy informality of the run.

Lois Haime (WA Buicks).



Wired up for sound at the drive-in



Can't help themselves – still talking cars!