

## CLASSIC CAR DAY WHITEMAN PARK 2009

The Buick Owners Club of WA attends this event every second year. Sunday 15 March 2009 (the ides of March) was forecast to have a top temperature of 38°. The actual temperature was 39.4°.

Despite the heat 14 Buicks assembled at Whiteman Park, the first arrival at 6 a.m. Driving in on the grass you could hear the dried kangaroo poo flicking up and hitting the undersides of the car. We were most fortunate that our gazetted spot included a large shady tree, although we had brought along shade gazebos. It was decided the tree and its shade would be sufficient for the Buick mob camped under it as well as the BBQ for the sausage sizzle.



Alan Hunt and Alan Haime supervised the parking of Buicks to show them off to their best advantage and the Buick banner was unfurled and attached to a fence. Tony Howe had arrived at 6 am to assist with marshalling of the cars.

Cars on display exceeded 1200 and approximately 18,000 people came through the gates.

Our catering for the event included eskies with cool drinks and sausages, onions and buns on the go most of the day. This worked out well to offer hospitality to member visitors who dropped in during the day.

Those attending the Queensland Nationals may remember John Padgett's 1948 Sedanette and the mysterious hole which appeared in his back window just after he had entered his motel room at Kingaroy. As there was a gun shop across the road there was some speculation about perhaps a bullet being fired into the air and coming down on John's back window. Anyhow, this window has now been fixed with John obtaining glass from the US and having it sent at great expense. Shannons made good on the claim which is great to hear. The car has been returned to its pristine condition and looked good in the line up.



The theme of the day was to dress in the era of your car. Only Jennifer Oversby and her friend Ann did this, dressing in great 50s style with big skirts and outlandish sunglasses to match Jennifer's '56.

The visitor coming the longest distance was Colin Lambert from Wales. He spends about three months a year in Australia and many members had never clapped eyes on him so it was nice to put a face to a name.

John and Sue Bell from Bunbury popped in and metro members visiting were Adrian Barnes, Ian Carrington-Jones, Barry Ryle and Robert Niksic

A couple with a strong Geordie accent made themselves known and revealed that they owned a 1950 Buick in England. They are like a lot of Brits who seem to spend half the year in Australia. Anyway they asked for a membership form and were signed up. We have found on various events



when the cars are on display its a good idea to have membership forms and cards on hand because this is when we find a lot of new members.

What is amazing on these display days is who comes out of the woodwork. An old chap approached the group and asked about Ian Baxter's 1946. Turned out he was an original owner and had driven the car across from the Eastern States many years ago. He was thrilled to find it in magnificent condition after Ian's lengthy restoration.

Half the members minded the camp and the cars and the other half drifted around looking at the other car club displays.

Even though it is a long day it is a very pleasant, relaxing day to spend under a tree catching up on everyone's news.

See our [Website](#) for more photos.

*L M Haime (WA Buicks)*



