

## NATIONAL STATIONARY ENGINE EVENT

It was decided to combine a club run to this event together with a General Meeting. The advertisements advised that there would be about 1.5 kilometres of stationary engines on display plus tractors.

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September was chosen as the date of the visit although the display ran for three days at the old Fairbridge Farm, about 70 kilometres from Perth.

Most of the Perth Buicks gathered at the Old Narrogin Inne which is a favourite starting point for events south of the river. Stuart Symes' 50 had a touch of the vapours at the nearby BP garage but eventually calmed down and the group took off.

Our '47 Packard has this problem. It waits until you have filled up the tank at a garage, I think the fuel vaporises and you just have to sit and wait it out, the problem being that you are holding up traffic at the garage. I usually slink down in my seat and try and be invisible while Alan is effing and raving behind the wheel and a queue of cars try and get into the service station.

However we were all soon on the way and thanks to Stuart we had a good route map which took us through lovely rural farms, bypassing South-West Highway. Some cars managed to sail past the turn off but eventually realised no-one was following them and returned to join the pack.

The old Edenvale House at Pinjarra provided morning teas and the chance to browse through their arts and crafts.

Barry and Lourdes Gard and John and Sue Bell had driven up from Bunbury way and swelled our numbers.

After the General Meeting we camped on a verandah and had lunch. Kaye Cook from Kukerin turned up to have a coffee, husband John having tractors on display down the road.

Most of the cars headed to Fairbridge after lunch but some returned back to Perth as the skies were looking pretty threatening.

The organisers of the display said 3,000 people had come through the gates on the Friday which at \$15 per head is a nice little earner.

The chug of the motors is quite a comforting sound and as one old bloke said, while you could hear the sound of the motor running, your lights would be on!

Familiar Buick member faces were Glen Hodda and Adrian Barnes who made themselves known to the Buick members wandering around.

The event was very well organised with buses provided to take people "over the hill" to see even more engines and tractors.

Peter and Bev Nicholson had engines on display and had camped overnight at the grounds. Some of the engines dated well back but were beautifully maintained and oiled and were somewhat hypnotic to watch. Amazing that there were lots of Eastern States people who had trucked their engines over for the event.

About three o'clock we decided to head off back towards Perth. Definitely something different!

*L M Haime (WA Buicks)*

