

POST VINTAGE NATIONAL MEET

This run was organised by the Veteran Car Club of WA to be held from 8 September through to the 15 September 2010 with Busselton being the hub. Post vintage includes cars from 1931 through to 1985.

The Meet was initially brought to the attention of members by the late John Padgett and he had been instrumental in making accommodation bookings and bringing news of the Meet to Buick members.

As the Buicks are an affiliated club with the VCC, it had been decided that some of our members would join the Meet for the week and some decided to just make the run to Busselton for the weekend.

Being part of the weekend brigade, three Buicks met up on the Kwinana Freeway and headed south. We arrived at about midday so it was decided to have a fish and chip lunch at the beach restaurant. When doing the obligatory cruise around Busselton it was fun to spot all makes and ages of cars, usually with tooting to follow.

Saturday evening the local drive-in had opened especially to cater for the post vintage cars. It was great to see all the cars lined up. Fortunately our 72 Boattail did not require use of the adjacent speaker and we could tune in to the local FM station for the movie soundtrack. It was a blustery evening with the odd shower which wasn't too great for the older cars which didn't have wipers. Questions were asked what was on the bill for the night and lots of comments were made that when you were young, you didn't really care what was showing at the drive-in!

The movie was "Public Enemy" with Johnny Depp as John Dillinger. The movie was set in 1933 so there was an interesting collection of cars on screen. Movies at the drive-ins really need to be either an animated feature or something with a lot of sunshine like "Lawrence of Arabia" as dark, gloomy movies are a bit of a challenge to see what is actually going on.

The next morning was the "Show and Shine" at the esplanade area at the beach. About 52 cars were registered in the Meet, with only one car coming from the Eastern States. Lots of socialising and chatting as Buick members spotted each other and caught up.

Barry and Lourdes Gard from Eaton had brought along their 1938 Buick which was Rob Ferguson-Stewart's car originally. Barry has further added to his collection by buying John Padgett's 1973 Boattail.

Johnno and Kaye Cook were visiting from Kulin and were displaying their 1957 Oldsmobile which they had imported from New Zealand. What a lovely looking car this is!



As the cars were not to be removed until 4 pm, the Hitchcock and Haime cars were parked on the perimeter for a getaway to a winery for lunch. Some pretty bleak showers were sweeping across with patches of intermittent sunshine.

After calling at a couple of wineries who were booked out for lunch, we headed to Rivendell Winery where we lunched very well. The food was real food, not like some pretentious wineries who feel they must get into making the description of the dish at least five lines long, finishing with something like a gribiche of cauliflower. What the hell is a gribiche? I think its an excuse to charge some exorbitant price. (I've just checked my son's French dictionary and find that a gribiche is food with a mixture of chopped eggs, capers and herbs in it) .

Back into Busselton late afternoon, putting on heaters and having a quick snooze before walking up to the Esplanade Pub where they had a great buffet for \$20 per head. A long table was organised and most of the Buick mob caught up to find out how everyone's week had been going. Those that had come down earlier had all enjoyed themselves and had certainly covered a lot of ground, with more to come at the start of the week.

Monday morning breakfast downtown Busselton and then off back to Perth. It had definitely been a good couple of days with a good opportunity to catch up with members from the south-west.

L M Haime (WA Buicks)