

The Lion's Roar

Mumblings from across the desk in the den of the Holden Enthusiasts Club Christchurch



March 2020

Presidents Report

Well, February was a bit of a shock month for Holden fans around New Zealand and Australia. Who would have predicted General Motors deciding to remove themselves from right hand vehicle manufacturing, and in doing so dropping the Holden name.

While I'm sure G.M. thought through every scenario option, they kept their final decision very close, as the franchises only found out hours before it was announced publicly.

The silver lining in this announcement, is that I believe the value of our beloved Holdens have just increased, and the HECC got mentioned several times on various news sites. Hopefully, the increased profile will lead to an increase in membership.

Speaking of which, welcome to the club Theo Kaiser. Theo owns a 2005 SS V8 Crewman.

Even though All Oz Day is still months away, we really need to start thinking about what charity, or charities, we can support this year, so please contact any of the committee with your suggestions.

It was great to have The Hanmer Motorfest attended by a large number of members again, and as always, the cars all looked great. It's always a pleasure to see our cars and club always well presented.

Till next month.

Allan White



Theo's Crewman

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Photos courtesy of Tom & Irene Evans



COVID-19

As with many of you, the Holden Enthusiasts Club committee has been watching the developments of the COVID-19 crisis. This coronavirus has had an unprecedented impact on almost every aspect of life on a global scale with the situation evolving at a rapid rate.

The New Zealand Government issued a ban on large gatherings which has caused the cancellation of many events including events our club planned to attend. It is important to the committee that we consider our own options and to make the right decisions for the members of this club, in-line with the NZ Government and Ministry of Health advice and requirements.

Therefore, it has been decided to cancel the April club meeting, along with any other events cancelled by other organisations, and then to monitor the situation on a month by month basis to see when we can safely return to future meetings and club events.

The club website and Facebook page will keep you updated, and each issue of The Lion's Roar will have up-to-date information at the time of release.

Please visit <https://covid19.govt.nz> for official Covid-19 updates.

Best regards, stay safe, and wash your hands regularly.

Holden Enthusiasts Club Christchurch Inc.



Since Covid-19 is interrupting our planned events and with the Holden brand "retiring", our newsletter may begin to lack new material. Is there something you want to share about your passion for Holdens? Let us know and we may be able to include your story in the next edition of the club newsletter and on our website.

Ed...



Hanmer Motorfest

Saturday morning, the start of another cruise and everyone was to meet at the Peg. For me the cruise this time was a bit different. With Julia working, I thought I would give the VZ a break and ride with Sarah and Fuds.

So, 7.00am and the group was growing, the usual suspects were there including a dedicated President who was up at 4.00am in Hanmer only to come back to Christchurch to collect his car with a brand-new engine. What a great way to put some miles on but a cruise with the club. Good on you Alan!!

After some freshly made scones and running a wee bit late but with a great group of cars, we cruised north at 7.20am. The President lead and set a cracking pace with us following up as Tail End Charlie!

Out of Woodend, we came across another group, the Minis. Some of them bravely mingled amongst the Holdens, alas until it came to the passing lanes, they looked good but no stamina. A quick stop in Amberley to gather together again, and maybe a petrol stop for the newbies (Theo mate ... petrol stops are at the start of the cruise), then on to Hanmer.

We met up with the rest of the club already in Hanmer, along with the Nelson guys and gals, and went into the event together. We all managed to get lined up side by side, looking great framed within the flags of the club.

What an event, heaps of cars, all sorts of Holdens, Fords, Chryslers, Dodges, Austins, a Lotus and a hot Audi A3, not to mention Trucks and motorcycles and Caravans. The weather was rather coolish in the morning with a hint of damp, however when the sun came out the day got a lot warmer.

While prize giving didn't go our way, a special mention must go to Josh who won the Stall Holders Choice with the infamous EK panel van. He is now sporting an awesome pair of red V8 earrings, very cute. Then it come to the raffles and a many micro cloths and buckets won, with Sarah and Whare getting a bulk load. Their cars are going to be super clean.

Once the formalities were over, it was time to break camp so to speak and head home.

Special thanks to Sarah and Whare for the opportunity to cruise with them. A great day was had by all.



Thanks for the scones aunty Sarah

Alistair



Meeting at the Peg



On display at Hanmer Motorfest



DLIVID



Stall Holders Choice



On display at Hanmer Motorfest

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Holden Timeline

With the shock announcement that General Motors is exiting the right hand drive market and retiring the Holden brand, lets take a brief look at the origins and history of the Holden name...

	1852	James Alexander Holden emigrates to Sth Australia from England.
J.A. Holden & Co. established. Merchants and wholesale saddlers Cnr King William and Rundle Street, Adelaide.	1856	
	1872	New partnership formed - Holden & Birks . Dissolved in 1875 and J.A. Holden & Co. re-established.
J.A. Holden & Son is created when Henry James Holden becomes a partner.	1879	
	1885	Holden & Frost is created when Henry Adolf Frost becomes a junior partner.
James Holden dies aged 52.	1887	
	1896	Holden & Frost supplies harnesses and saddlery under government wartime contracts (Boer War)
Edward Holden (grandson of JA Holden) joins the firm.	1905	
	1908	Makes side curtains for the first cars in Australia and upholstery repairs.
Produces motorcycle sidecar bodies	1913	
	1914	Mounts motor bodies produced by F.T. Hack and co. onto old chassis.
Begins producing bodies for Chevrolet chassis (and assemble bodies for Ford Model T's)	1917	Buy's out F.T. Hack
Holden Motor Body Builders division of Holden set up	1919	Henry incorporates Holden's Motor Body Builders Ltd (HMBB) .
Sole Australian body builder for General Motors Vehicles	1924	
	1928	Holden's lion and stone logo created by Rayner Hoff.
HMBB is bought by General Motors and merges to form General Motors-Holden Ltd (GM-H)	1931	
	1936	New headquarters built at Fishermans Bend, assembling Chevrolets and Vauxhalls.
GM-H helps with the war effort producing guns, tanks, and aircraft.	1939	
	1948	FX 48-215, the first car "made in Australia, for Australia" launched by Labor Prime Minister Ben Chifley 29th November
One Millionth Holden (EJ)	1961	
	2017	Holden ceases production in Australia October 20 th
The Commodore is retired	2019	
	2020	General Motors announces it will 'retire' the Holden brand after deciding to withdraw from all right-hand-drive markets including Australia.





Holden logo 1928



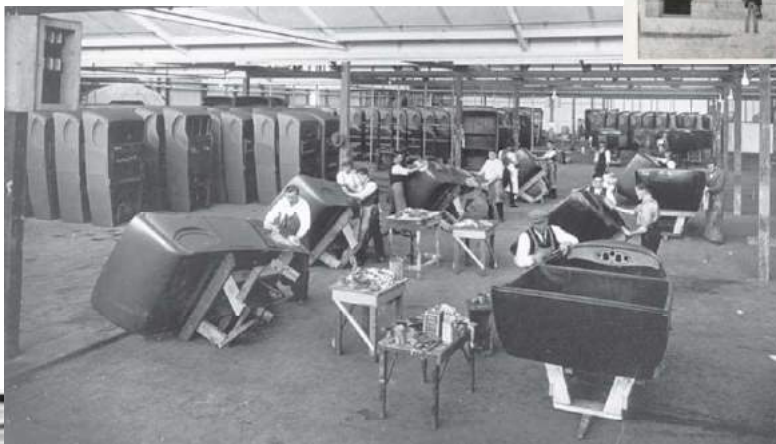
J.A. Holden

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Early advertisement



100 Grenfell Street, Adelaide



UPCOMING EVENTS

March

3rd HECC Meeting
Redwood Styx Room 7:30pm

8th Twin Rivers Motor Extravaganza
Event run by Avonhead Rotary Club
Meet at Pioneer carpark 9:15am

20th-22nd Caroline Bay Rock and Hop
Event run by Hospice South Canterbury
Cancelled

April

7th HECC Meeting
Cancelled

19th Wheels and Wings
Cancelled

May

5th HECC Meeting
To be determined...

17th Scavenger Hunt
To be determined...

June

2nd HECC Meeting
To be determined...

21st Breakfast at The Reddie & Cruise
To be determined...

July

7th HECC Meeting
To be determined...

August

4th HECC Meeting
To be determined...

FOR SALE

Club Clothing Range:

Staple T	\$35.00
Basic T	\$35.00
Womens Sketch T	\$35.00
Kids T	\$30.00
Youth T	\$30.00
Sweatshirt	\$60.00
Hoodie	\$65.00

For the club clothing range, drop into AS Colour, cnr Lichfield & High Streets, to check out the colours and styles available.

Club Merchandise:

Club Stickers	\$ 5.00
Club Sashes	\$20.00
HECC Cups	\$ 2.50

Limited stock of older style womens "red and white" club shirts available \$10.00 (sizes 8-18).

Contact Sarah McKenzie.



COMMITTEE

President	Allan White 027 282 8015
Vice President	Whare Ward 021 147 5612
Secretary	Sarah McKenzie 021 0249 2550
Treasurer	Joshua Bentham 027 321 2571
Club Captain	Jarrad Mehlhopt 027 229 9764
Committee	Rob Gordon Paul Wilkinson Richard Croucher Alistair Joseph
Editor	Whare Ward

If you have any issues please contact us direct we are all willing to answer any questions or talk through any questions you may have.

