

# ALDECC inc.



[www.aldecc.org.au](http://www.aldecc.org.au)

Newsletter

May - August 2010



## 2010 ALDECC Committee Members

### President: 2010 / 2011

Sue Grant 180 Queen St Colac VIC 3250

03 5231 5520

Email: [keithsgrant1@dodo.com.au](mailto:keithsgrant1@dodo.com.au)

### Secretary: 2010 / 2011

Mary Purtill 14 Peninsula Crt Thurgoona NSW 2640

02 6043 1640

0438 431640

Email: [purtilldrivetrain@bigpond.com.au](mailto:purtilldrivetrain@bigpond.com.au)

### Committee 2010/2011

John Gullock 193 Warby Range Rd Glenrowan VIC 3675

03 5766 2967

Mobile 0412 260732

Steve Damm 33 Firestone Way Wodonga VIC 3690

02 6059 3315

Mobile 0409 907463

Bernie Greely 13 Westgate St Oakleigh VIC 3166

03 9569 0983

Mobile 0403 642051

Garry Higginson 20 Buckley Road Diggers Rest Vic 3427

03 93105286

Rosemary Trease 85 "Treases Lane" Mirboo North Vic 3871

03 5664 1292

### Committee 2010

Mary Greenham Pental Island Caravan Park  
519 Pental Island Rd Swan Hill Vic 3585

03 5032 2071

Bryn Hillman 5c Parkes St Helensburgh NSW 2508

02 4294 3252

Mobile 0418 424026

Reen Hillman 5c Parkes St Helensburgh NSW 2508

0419 418962

Work 02 9521 9121

Mary Kirk 559 Jarvis Creek Rd Jarvis Creek Vic 3700

02 6071 2234





## GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Greetings to all Members,

Winter certainly has come with vengeance this year. I hope this finds everyone warm and well. Thanks to the committee for their "Venue Hunting" weekends they have spent over the past couple of months.

It has enabled us to make firm decisions for the next 2 years reunions.

To be able to tick all the boxes to suit our group is not always easy to tick those boxes.

We have spoken to and visited various places within our accepted area of easy travel for everyone, however for the next year we are returning to Harrierville and have made plans for a move in 2010 when buildings are completed.

These weekends take lots of planning, time and travel as well as fun for those involved, but we feel it is well worth our efforts as we "try & buy".

For those who are "on the wallaby" and in the warmer climates please if you have anything of interest or some gossip please let us know. This helps us compile newsy newsletters.

We have had people using our web-site which is great,----bringing our some interesting info.

Finally condolences to members who have recently lost loved ones.

Susie

## A WORD FROM YOUR SECRETARY

**secretary@aldecc.org.au**

Hello to you all

The committee have been out and about the past couple of months checking out venues for the 2011 reunion.

It is certainly not an easy job to find a venue that can accommodate the many different needs and personalities that ALDECC is made up of.

After much soul searching the Committee have decided to return to Feathertop Chalet at Harrierville for the 2011 Annual Reunion.

Kevin has assured me that the food will be better tasting, and better presented to our group. He is quite happy to accommodate all our needs. Presently I am awaiting the final breakdown of costs to come through so as I can let you all know. Unfortunately the costs of the reunion will be slightly higher than this year but we will do our best to get value for money.

This will be our last return to Feathertop for at least 12 months as during our travels the Committee came across a venue that will be ideal for us in the year 2012. Now I know that sounds a long way away but time travels fast these days. This venue wasn't going to be available to ALDECC in 2011 but we have made an early booking for 2012. We will give more info about this venue at a later date.

We would love to produce another calendar for 2011 and I would be happy to receive any ideas for consideration that you may like to see included.

Please don't forget that we now have our official Website. Make sure that you click onto [www.aldecc.org.au](http://www.aldecc.org.au) and if you wish send in some comments to the webmaster or drop an email to the secretary. We would love to hear from you.

Until next time stay safe and well

Regards

Mary Purtil

secretary@aldecc.org.au



## AND THEN THE FIGHT STARTED.....



What is it about ALDECC members and falling over landing on their heads? Seems our own John Gullock wanted to give Celwyn a run for his money, when he fell from a bridge while at work, landing on his head! A member of the Committee had need to ring John who was unable to speak at that present moment as he was in Casualty at the local hospital, being checked out for whatever they were looking for (brain maybe?) and stitching his head back together! John has made a good recovery with no ill effects.

LOOKING FOR GREELY? He has headed North to the Alice.

### **GUESS WHO'S TURNING 50 ??????**

Mary Purtill is joining the ranks at last. It was decided that she had to celebrate, so in case she didn't get anyone to turn up to her party, it was decided to hold an ALDECC Committee meeting on the day. Guests are guaranteed.

Could be her age, but Mary has also been seen on local TV, (not quite chained naked to a tree), but taking on the developers who want to build a retirement village at their bank fence. (Maybe she could just lie down quietly, since retirement could be around the corner.....)

### **Growing Old Disgracefully -**

The secret of STAYING YOUNG is to live honestly, eat slowing, and lie about your age.

I was always taught to RESPECT MY ELDERS, and now I've reached the age when I don't have to respect ANYBODY !

As you get older three things happen. The first is your MEMORY goes, and I can't remember the other two.

One year , I decided to buy my mother-in-law a cemetery plot as a Christmas gift...

The next year , I didn't buy her a gift.

When she asked me why , I replied , "Well , you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year!"

And that's how the fight started.....

I asked my wife ,

'Where do you want to go for our anniversary?' It warmed my heart to see her face melt in sweet appreciation.

'Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!' she said.

So I suggested , 'How about the kitchen?'

And that's when the fight started...

My wife and I are watching Who Wants To Be A Millionaire while we were in bed.

I turned to her and said , 'Do you want to have Sex?'

'No , ' she answered. I then said , 'Is that your final answer?'

She didn't even look at me this time , simply saying 'Yes..'

So I said , 'Then I'd like to phone a friend.'

And that's when the fight started...

I took my wife to a restaurant.

The waiter , for some reason , took my order first. 'I'll have the rump steak , medium rare , please.'

He said , 'Aren't you worried about the mad cow?'

'Nah , she can order for herself.'

And that's when the fight started.....

My wife sat down on the couch next to me as I was flipping the channels.

She asked , 'What's on TV?' I said , 'Dust'

And then the fight started..

My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary.

She said , 'I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 200 in about 3 seconds.'

I bought her a set of bathroom scales.

And then the fight started...

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion , and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table.

I asked her , 'Do you know him?'

'Yes , ' she sighed ,

'He's my old boyfriend.... I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago , and I hear he hasn't been sober since.'

'My God!' I said , 'Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?'

And then the fight started...

I rear-ended a car this morning.. So , there we were alongside the road and slowly the other driver got out of his car.

You know how sometimes you just get soooo stressed and little things just seem funny?

Yeah , well I couldn't believe it... he was a DWARF!!!

He stormed over to my car , looked up at me , and shouted , 'I AM NOT HAPPY!'

So , I looked down at him and said , 'Well , then which one are you?'

And then the fight started...



*Congratulations!*



Julie Keatley and son Michael were down in Albury recently for the Combined Catholic Schools footy competition. We hear the trip was worthwhile as Michaels school had a win. WELL DONE!

Ray and Lyn Higginson have again been tripping around. This time to Pental Island to stay with Mary and Alfie. Many laughs were had by all, but no hard boiled eggs in the chook pen this time!

The Oakleys are still on the move, and have wandered up the East Coast, and were last spotted at Mt Morgan, and Cape Hillborough. Possible heading for Darwin. Where they end up is anyone's guess! Their motto "Love is not a matter of counting the years, it's making the years count"

There is a rumour going around that Garry Matthewson is retiring up to Albury. Watch this space.

Ray Higginson is the latest member of ALDECC to be inducted and "immortalised" into the Transport Hall of Fame in Alice Springs at the end of August!

Ray such a passion for the bus & coach industry, so this is a well deserved award to someone who has contributed so much for so many years!

Our President - Susie, missed the boot on her foot so much that she decided to go and have more surgery on her foot again. This has slowed her down considerably for several months - and she again has another boot to keep her foot warm! Get Well Sue.



### MANY HAPPY RETURNS

**GRACE CADZOW** has joined the prestigious 80's club! Grace celebrated with family and friends in a weekend of celebrations at home in Charlton. A good time was had by all !! Grace was then packing up to do a coach tour with Judy (passengers of course)

Also celebrating the "BIG 80" was .....**KEITH GRANT** (Storky)! He too celebrated his birthday in August, and was joined by family and friends to kickstart his 81st year!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU** and we wish you many more healthy, happy years!!!

While in the Grant household - Storky managed to find his way into hospital for the first time in his life! We hear he was the model patient ?!! Now he has ticked that one off his bucket list, lets hope he stays out. All the best Storky. Only one old crock allowed per household at any one time.

Seems our Budget Bitch should have forked out a bit more for budget crutches, and perhaps even used them so she would not have to go dragging herself up the steps on her backside following recent knee surgery. All the Best for a full recovery Carmel! (Cough up and we won't show the photos)



Some would say it has been a long time coming—but our First Baby of ALDECC is now blissfully engaged !!!!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO SIMONE & TONY** who became engaged a couple of months ago. Now it seems that "Like Mother Like Daughter" is going a bit too far this time. Susie began her life as a Hayes, and now Simone is going to marry a Hayes—and before you even ask NO they are not related!

We all wish you both every happiness, and will be available for the wedding..... Better start saving Storky !!!

There are quite a few members of our ALDECC family who have had some personal struggles during recent months, through sickness themselves or with immediate members of their families. We wish you well and our thoughts are with you.

### OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to

Bev Walker, as well as Ray's children Kerry, Brendan, Kimberly and their families. Ray (the Sandman) passed away on 3rd July 2010. He put up a very courageous fight, never losing his sense of humour. He was a very proud member of the coach industry, and ALDECC, ran a Fishing Tackle & Sports store for a while, enjoyed working at "the Dish in Parkes" was a keen member of the Ulysses Club amongst many other things. Aside from his family, (and his bike), Ray was a very proud Australian and passionate about all things Australian. Ray was thrilled to hear from and see many old friends during his illness. He was indeed a True Gentleman of the Tourist Industry and will be sadly missed.



### ALSO our Deepest Sympathy to

Eric Blizzard, Tony, Denise, Karen and your families, on the passing of your wife, Mum & Nana - Merle. Merle did not enjoy good health for some time and is now free from her suffering.

Rest in Peace.

## Aussie Bush Etiquette

### In General:

1. Never take an open stubby to a job interview.
2. Always identify people in your paddocks before shooting at them.
3. It's tacky to take an Esky (Chilly Bin) to church.
4. If you have to vacuum the bed, it's time to change the sheets.
5. Even if you're certain you're included in the Will, it's rude to take your ute **and trailer** to the funeral.

### Dining Out:

1. When decanting wine from the box, tilt the paper cup and pour slowly so as not to bruise the wine.
2. If drinking directly from the bottle, hold it with only one hand.

### Entertaining in Your Home:

1. A centre piece for the table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist.
2. Don't allow the dog to eat at the table, no matter how good his manners.

### Personal Hygiene:

1. While ears need to be cleaned regularly, this should be done in private, using one's OWN ute keys.
2. Even if you live alone, deodorant is never a waste of money.
3. Over use of deodorant can only delay bathing by a few days and if you are a woman it can draw attention away from your jewellery.
4. Dirt and grease under the fingernails is a no-no, it alters the taste of finger foods.

### Theatre/Cinema Etiquette:

1. Crying babies should be taken to the lobby and picked up after the movie ends.
2. Refrain from yelling abuse at characters on the screen. Tests have proven they can't hear you.

### Weddings:

1. Livestock is a poor choice for a wedding gift.
2. For the groom, at least, rent a tux. A tracksuit with a cumberbund and a clean football jumper is considered tacky and uncool.
3. Though uncomfortable, say "yes" to socks and shoes for the occasion.

### Driving Etiquette:

1. Dim your headlights for approaching vehicles, even if your gun's loaded and the roo's in your rifle sight.
2. When entering a roundabout, the vehicle with the largest roo bar doesn't always have the right of way.
3. If you tow another car using panty hose and duct tape, NEVER try to return the panty hose after use.
4. When sending your wife down the road with a petrol can, it's impolite to ask her to bring back beer too

Here is the completed version. The gremlins got to this in the last edition and lost the last couple of paragraphs!



## It's Hell to be Old !

OLD people have problems that you haven't even considered yet!

An 85-year-old man was requested by his Doctor for a sperm count as part of his physical exam.

The doctor gave the man a jar and said, 'Take this jar home and bring back a semen sample tomorrow.'

The next day the 85-year-old man reappeared at the doctor's office and gave him the jar, which was as clean and empty as on the previous day.

The doctor asked what happened and the man explained, 'Well, doc, it's like this--first I tried with my right hand, but nothing. Then I tried with my left hand, but still nothing..

'Then I asked my wife for help. She tried with her right hand, then with her left, still nothing. She tried with her mouth, first with the teeth in, then with her teeth out, still nothing.

'She even called up Arleen, the lady next door and she tried too, first with both hands, then an armpit, and she even tried squeezin' it between her knees, but still nothing.'

The doctor was shocked! **'You asked your neighbour?'**

The old man replied, 'Yep, none of us could get the jar open.'



1952 Leyland Tiger OPS2/1



1957 Bedford

Remember that ALDECC has joined the computer age and now has our own

ALDECC Website  
[www.aldecc.org.au](http://www.aldecc.org.au)



If you want to contact Mary Purtill via email — the email address is:

**secretary@aldecc.org.au**



Bryn Hillman recently got back behind the wheel and touring again. He runs red hot tours. His “baptism of fire” was literal, when the coach he was in, with almost a full deck of people, caught fire on the Gore Hill Freeway. He managed to disrupt peak hour traffic for some time, but nobody was hurt thanks to the quick thinking “old boy”, and two off duty police who just happened by at the right time. Only one case of wine and one lonely bottle of ginger beer survived!

The Bush Telegraph was in full swing and Bryn would like to sincerely thank those who helped out that night, and also contacted either him or Reen (from all over Australia and overseas!) There were some real “blasts from the past”, which was amazing and very much appreciated. We truly

belong to an amazing industry.

Rumour has it that if you want to get rid of any old coaches, just call “Smokey”. (Maybe he will lose the name “Stobie now Faye?”)

### ALDECC REUNION FOR 2011

A great deal of time and effort (with much hilarity), has been put in by the Committee to source possibilities for the 2011 ALDECC Reunion. These were narrowed down to a few, and one cold winter’s weekend, seven members of the Committee went to check out possibilities on our short list. We came across one in Tocumwal, which ticked all the boxes—except availability for 2011. 2012 will be right though, and a tentative booking has been made. After due and careful consideration, it was decided to return to Feathertop again next year. Mary has had a few chats with Kevin and there will be no repeats of the problems experienced last year.

Watch out for the final reunion details in the next newsletter, including the Early Bird booking form.

Don’t forget to contact any member of your Committee if you have any queries regarding the upcoming reunion.

### THE BROKEN LAWN MOWER:

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed..

But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the Ute, making beer.. Always something more important to me.

Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point.

When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush.

I said,

'When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway.'

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.



The Committee were so keen to attend the “venue hunting weekend” that one Thurgoona resident, gave her car a bit too much right boot, and ended up having discussions with a very nice member of the NSW Police force along the way! The Officer was also quick to notice that she was driving driver training car, which added to his amusement as he was writing out her speeding ticket!



### Banking Details for ALDECC

Please note our banking details below if you intend to deposit subs or reunion fees:

ANZ Bank            BSB 012-708  
Account No        3692 76963

Address            Centro Lavington S/C  
Lavington Shop 80 Griffith Rd  
Lavington NSW 2641

### General Enquiries:

#### The Sydney Bus and Truck Museum Limited

Old Leichhardt Tramshed, 25 Derbyshire Rd, Leichhardt NSW  
2040

Phone: (+61) 02 9572 6789

Fax: (+61) 02 9572 6786

Mail: PO Box 630, Leichhardt, NSW 2040, Australia.

Email: [info@sydneybusmuseum.com](mailto:info@sydneybusmuseum.com)

### Museum vehicles:

Would you like to have one of the Museum's vehicles on display at your event?

Please note that the Museum's vehicles are not authorised by the Ministry of Transport to carry passengers.

Email: [ops@sydneybusmuseum.com](mailto:ops@sydneybusmuseum.com)

Phone: 0408 411 195.

### Magazine:

John Clifton

Editor, Australian Bus & Commercial Vehicle Heritage

PO Box 623

Rockdale, NSW 2216

Phone: 02 9567 3103

Email: [editor@australianbus.com.au](mailto:editor@australianbus.com.au)

After 23 years in the Old Tempe Tramshed, the Sydney Bus Museum has finally closed it's doors to the public. We are currently relocating to the Old Leichhardt Tramshed and hope to be open to the public again later this year.

The Bus Shop is still taking mail orders, but please note our new fax number: (+61) 02 9572 6786

## 2011 ALDECC CALENDAR

Due to popular demand, we will again be publishing another ALDECC Calendar for the 2011 Reunion.

Please contact Mary or any member of the Committee with your suggestions as to what you would like on the next edition ALDECC Calendar.

Please scan or copy any photos and send them to Mary at [secretary@aldecc.org.au](mailto:secretary@aldecc.org.au), BEFORE Christmas to ensure that your contributions can be included before it goes to print.

We welcome ANY FEEDBACK or suggestions from you as to what you would like on it. Remember.... It is no good complaining that your photos are not in the calendar if you do not send them in!

We look forward to hearing from you!

As you get OLDER, you gain knowledge, tolerance and serenity. Then your teeth fall out.

### YOUR ALDECC NEWSLETTER

Have you got any gossip, tid bits you would like included in the Newsletter? If so Please contact Mary at [secretary@aldecc.org.au](mailto:secretary@aldecc.org.au) so it can be passed onto the Editor. You must know SOMETHING that someone else would like to hear about also.



1943 M3A1 White Scout Car (Prime Mover)



& 1947 Semi Trailer Bus



1954 AEC Regent 111

## The Theory of Intelligence

I don't think I've ever heard the concept explained any better than this.

'Well you see, Norm, it's like this . . . A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members. In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Now, as we know, excessive intake of alcohol kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine.

And that, Norm, is why you always feel smarter after a few beers.



Thanks to all who have contributed "bits" for your Newsletter. If yours was not printed this time then check out the next edition!

Stay healthy and safe. Happy travels—until next time.....