



GTR

T O R A N A

XU-1

CAR CLUB OF WA Inc

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 30 Spring 2014

Custom Cars and Coffee

GTR Torana XU1 Car Club of WA Inc.

Executive Committee

President: Natalie Kais
Secretary: Marleen Naylor
Treasurer: Ken Parker

Committee Members

Liaison Officer: Alan Bajada

Club Merchandise Officer:
Jo-Anne Allchin

Show Organiser: Trevor Peters

Spare Parts Officer: Kim Jeffery

Newsletter Editor: Martin Sibley
sibhs@iinet.net.au

Property Officer: Trevor Peters

Website: Jo-Anne Allchin

Librarian: Stuart Cairns

Club Registrar (Concessional
Licensing): Ken Parker

Scrutineers: Russell Rouse

Special Projects Officer:
Mark Pitt

Social and Runs Officer:
Bill Jenaway

Club meetings are held on the first
Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at
East Victoria Park and Vietnam Veterans
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Disclaimer: The GTR Torana XU1 Car Club of WA Inc. does not accept responsibility for the truth or accuracy of any articles or advertisements appearing in this newsletter. It is incumbent on the reader to satisfy themselves as to the truth or accuracy of any of the articles or advertisements. All articles and advertisements are accepted in good faith by the club.

Why become a member of the GTR Torana XU1 Car Club of WA Inc?

WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER MEMBERS

A club is only as strong as its members. The GTR Torana Car Club of WA Inc. is no exception to the rule. Its main assets are its members. There is a diverse range of technical knowledge and skills and all members willingly contribute to the club information base and, we are proud to say, willingly help each other.

Vehicle Identification

We can give advice to owners and potential owners of either GTR or GTR XU-1 Toranas.

Information

We provide information relating to the GTR and XU-1 Torana. If you need to know something we can in most cases provide an answer, or at least put you in touch with someone who can assist you.

Concessional licensing

Club concessional licensing, where upon inspection - if passed - a much lower State licensing fee is charged.

Quarterly newsletter

Advertising up and coming events, free For Sale section, free Wanted section, free advertising for your business, interesting club run articles, club-attended car show articles and technical articles.

Club Activities and runs

Club runs and barbecues are organised throughout the year to bring club members together for some fun. The club also attends many of the larger car shows in WA.

Club Meetings

Club meetings are held monthly and are a great source of information

Club merchandise

Exclusive GTR Torana XU-1 Club merchandise. Polo shirts, t-shirts, hats, beanies, jackets, stubby holders, decals and key rings.

Discounts

We are able to offer club members discounts at participating businesses.

For membership please visit the club web page for an application form

www.gtrtoranaxulcarclubinc.com

President's Report

It's hard to believe we are into the spring edition already. With another AGM under our belts and heading into 2014 / 2015, I'd like to thank Steve Gunn for his presidency over the last few years, providing great leadership with the committees that supported him and being a positive influence in achieving results in various projects.

A big thankyou also to the new committee, Executive and Sub, for volunteering their time for the next year. I'm looking forward to working together to ensure we support our Show Organiser and our Social Runs Officer through participation in many events over the coming months as we prepare to head into the nicer weather. I know our Merchandise Officer also has some big plans to refresh the merchandise which will most likely feature at many of these events as well.

I'm also very keen to come up with a couple of things throughout the year that can be chipped away at by our Projects Officer. The first challenge is to improve our New Member Pack. Beyond that I'd like to explore ways in which we can add value and be a service focussed club to our members. Feel free to pitch in and help our committee members at any time. Even if it's coming up with great display ideas at the show 'n' shine events, ideas on club runs, donating items for the club raffle or simply participating in any of the designated events.



And most importantly, we all enjoy our quarterly magazine and look forward to seeing what each edition is going to include so keep the information and photos coming in for Marty to work his magic. And if you're selected to write an article on a particular event, you have poetic license to have fun and make it your own. Just make it on time!

So enjoy the coming season and thanks for letting me sit in the chair!

Natalie Kais

Editorial

Welcome to the new committee members and congratulations to those that held their positions. Thanks must go to the outgoing committee for all their hard work throughout the years.

Nice to see some ladies leading the way with Natalie and Marleen taking on the Presidency and Secretary roles. Go girls.

I'm looking forward to another busy year with plenty of Torana activities in my life at the moment. Next week I'll be flying over to QLD for Toranarama. This is a two day event with a 'Show-and-Shine' on Saturday followed by driving events on Sunday.

This is the first time in 20 years that this event has been held outside of NSW (called Toranafest) so it will be new for organisers, entrants and spectators. It will also bring out a new set of cars from the sheds of QLD.

My car is also taking shape with the rear end installed and brake and fuel lines renewed. Next newsletter I will have the engine in and fired up.

Last month saw the inaugural announcement of the winner of the Phil Leroy Trophy for the most help full club member. Congratulations to Trevor, a well deserved recipient, one of the hardest working members in the club.

A big thanks to Ken for taking on the trophy making. Ken has done a terrific job making this trophy and it'll be a real honour for all that deserve it sitting in their pool room.

Made from timber, a steering wheel, and a Brock number plate, it really shows off Kens many skills. Read all about it on page 20.

I've been given the opportunity to compete in the Shitbox Rally 2015. This lighthearted fun event is run to raise money for The Cancer Council and

I'll be doing my bit to help the charity. See page 16 to catch the action from this years event.

While I was on a road trip a few months ago I detoured towards Albany to watch the Albany Classic. Old cars on a tight street circuit, catch some of my pics on page 12.

Mike Bell has again shared his knowledge by sending in an article he compiled on the meanings to engine numbers. Sure to be of interest to the purists of these little beasts. Thanks Mike.

Sit back, relax, and enjoy another edition of your club Newsletter.

Martin Sibley

Please send any content, articles and photos for the newsletter to sibhs@inet.net.au

Quote of the year.....

"I used to hang out for my Muscle Car Magazine, but now I can't wait for this newsletter"

Trevor Peters

Trevor (left) receives the Phil Leroy Trophy from Ken.



Custom Cars & Coffee

This hugely popular event has grown from a medium gathering of all types of cars to a logistical nightmare of getting too many cars into a big carpark.

Numbers of over 700 cars have been recorded at the Fremantle venue with many beautiful cars arriving late and getting stuck out on the streets.

Due to these numbers the cars are now meeting at the Midvale Speed Dome with the first event being Sunday 14th September 2-4pm.

I have ventured down to a couple of these and found a few club members XU-1's amongst the cars.

When the weather is kind and the coffee line short, it's an enjoyable morning to view a huge variety of all makes and models.

Ed







Holden short motors from 1971 to 1973

Automatics and manuals had differing part numbers due to the differing spigot bearing fitted to the rear of the crankshaft assembly, it is possible they carried the same NASCO prefixes though.

The first prefix is N followed by a 2nd prefix NASCO engine identification below, (depending on engine size and production on and after 1971)

- A 130 (example replacement short motor likely to be NA)
- B 138 high compression (Auto? 2818077)
- C 138 low compression (manual? 2813453)
- D 173 high compression 2815455
- E 173 low compression 2815457
- F 173S 2818078
- G 179X & 186K 7430310 this is a performance 186 replacing a 179 & 186 (1973 numbers) X2 automatics were 7430309, but possibly carried the same NG prefix.
- H Not used due to possible confusion over early different size H prefix engines
- I Not used by Holden or any other known manufacturer.
- J 186S (M) 2818347 April 72 (A) 2818348 Aug 72 (A) 7430309
- K 186X & CK XU-1 2817042 possibly superseded to 2820458 by 1973.
- L 202 high compression (M) 2815459
- M 202 low compression (M) 2815530
- N Not used at that time?
- O Not used by Holden or any other known manufacturer.
- P Used for two JP XU-1 engine replacements.

Only original JP engines after 386598 had dual cast blocks, with the exception of an occasional one within the QL and JL engines of the same era.

(a) NP 2000, 3000, 4000 & 5000 for pre JP 386598 engines part number 2823687.

(b) Engines after 386598 used NP 7000 series part number 9935129, not dual cast date.

The replacement 186 short motors for HD 179 short motor (M) 7430306 (A) 7429330, the 186A HR (M) 7430306 (A) 7430305 and 186P HK (M) 2818314 (A) 2818315, the HD and HR both shared the 7430306 Short motor.

Both NG and NJ prefix examples, found so far are dated mid 1972. Some have surmised that NG and NJ were mistamps but by the nature of the engine stamping process, and the alphabetical order this does not seem to be the case.

It seems to be generally accepted information, stock 202 replacement was NL shared across the whole Holden range, in Statesman it may have been 11NL, but most people will have upgraded to a V8 if the 6 failed, so there may never have been any 11NL prefix short motors fitted.

Stock models may be explained by my NASCO numbers draft format below.

186N****S 2818314

253N****S 3speed 2811392 &

4 speed 2812169

308N****S 4 speed 2811395

350 3970655

Marleens GTR Resto

I purchased this car for \$7000 after I sold my LEH Premier sedan. It had been a complete car before the previous owner decided to strip it down for a complete restoration. After picking up the car it sat in my workshop for sometime, while carrying on with a resto on another LJ GTR for a mate.

I gave this Torana to Marleen as a Christmas present knowing that she felt passionate about these little rockets just as much as I do. This car would be in safe hands once it was finished and she was at the wheel.



Firstly all front panels were removed and new guards, radiator support, nose-cone and lower apron were fitted back in my workshop.

My inspiration to get this car back to its original colour inside and out, was from a car we saw at the 2012 Toranas on the Mountain at Bathurst. I took some photos of this beautiful Mediterranean Blue metallic LC GTR and a stuck a big pic of it on the quarter panel of Marleens car to keep up the motivation on such a big build.

With all body panels done it was off to the paint shop, where for the next two weeks I would be prepping the body for its final colour. After I finished there it would be back to my workshop to get motor, gearbox, new sprintmasters, and the amazing Sandlewood interior ready for when the car was finished being painted. It's running a 186, triple 150cd Stormbergs and an All Aussie 4spd.



I made the decision to try get the car to near as complete as I could in the time I had before making the trek to Barrossa Valley for the 2014 Nationals. I'm glad I got to take the car, even though it wasn't quite completed, and got to show off Marleens LC GTR in Adelaide. Looking forward to the day when Marleen gets to fire up the engine and take it out with the other cars from club.

Steve Harvey



Albany Classic 2014

While on a drive down south to Demark, chasing some car parts, I decided to stay overnight in Albany to watch the Great Southern Weekender Albany Classic.

This was a great experience to see the old muscle cars roaring down the main street.

As this was a spur-of-the-moment decision, we had no accomodation and had to do a bit of ringing around to find a spare room. Happened to book into the Dog Rock Motel and be next door to

this beaut LC. At first I thought it was Dave S.'s because of the colour and similar number plate. I jumped out of our car and walked over for a chat I found out the owner bought the car new, Very rare find. Nice guy called Ted who enjoys to drive the car for what it was made for, FUN'.

If the weather is good, this is well worth the drive down to watch.

Ed





Rim polishing

For those that like shiny bits. I've found a good metal polisher in Malaga who gave my rims some much needed 'love'. They came out amazing and for \$45 each it was

worth every cent. This guy doesn't do repairs or painting so all you get is a good buffing. Contact me if you're interested in his details.
Ed





ShitBox Rally



I've been given to opportunity to compete in the Shitbox Rally 2015, Canberra to Townsville. For those who haven't heard of this (it doesn't get much media due to the name) here is what it's all about.

Shitbox Rally is not a race, rather a challenge to achieve the unthinkable. To drive cars worth \$1000 across Australia via some of its most arduous roads, all in the name of charity. All cars are made up of a team of two who share in the fun and challenges of this type of event. This is a great way to raise money for a worthwhile charity, The Cancer Council of Australia. This year they raised around the 1.5 million dollar mark.

All teams have to raise a minimum of \$4000 to be selected. This year saw a total of 250 cars leaving Kings Park on their way to Darwin, I was there to capture some of the fun and fravolity.

To help raise money for this worthwhile cause I am donating all moneys from the sales of my Lower Dash Decals. I will be selling them for \$25 a set which includes lower dash and fuse box. I hope you can help out.

ps... if you know of a licensed LJ for under \$1000, let me know. :-)

Ed





The Good ol' Days



Pictures from yesteryear, courtesy of the GTR XU-1 Nationals photographic CD





Making the Phil Leroy Trophy

The Peter Brock signed number plate had been in Club property for many years. I don't think anybody had any good ideas as to what to do with it. For some reason it ended up in my possession, as it was with the Treasurer's Archive Box.

When Trevor Peters floated the idea that we create a Trophy in memory of Phil, I thought we finally had a use for the Brock Plate. The members at that meeting agreed to create a Trophy and I volunteered to make it.

As a person who always said "I can't work in wood to save my life" and my manual arts teachers used to smash my woodwork models with a mallet and then send me to do metalwork, I think it was a brave offer.

I went to Alan Bajada's "Hamilton Sawmill" and obtained some off cuts of various timber. Alan and Steve Gunn gave me a couple of model Toranas to use, but the best item was an old broken GTR steering wheel from Steve Gunn.

I spent a fair bit of time designing how the Trophy should look and then working out how to fit the plate and the steering wheel, I finally decided

to cut the wheel in half to make it fit better. This was easy with the rim, but took a bit of work to cut the back section off the boss. I then had to do a resto on the rest of the wheel. It looked like someone had removed it with a sledge hammer. It was bent and twisted, chunks missing in places and very badly stained.

Having cut the timber into shape and planed and sanded it to a good finish, I took the bits down to Nunzio Barone's place where he used his routers to bevel all the edges. (Thanks Nunzio)

We then screwed all the panels together to see how it would fit. All OK.

The next problem was to attach the wheel. This was easy as it was made of a material I understand "STEEL".

I made up a short steering shaft and bolted it to the base wood. Then using two large nuts slid the wheel onto the shaft. A fair bit of messing around getting the wheel to fit exactly in the right place. The next problem was mounting the horn pad, as I did not have any of the mounting hub parts. Made up a steel plate and mounted the pad and then fitted four decker rods into the hub mounts and using multiple nuts and washers mounted the horn pad. It took lots of trial and error to get the pad into the right position.

I screwed the Brock Plate on under the wheel. I was originally going to mount the two model Toranas onto the back place but it looked too cluttered so gave up on that idea.

The whole thing was then stripped and the wood polished, lacquered and sealed. When I was happy with the finish I re-assembled the whole lot then glued some green felt cloth to the base and back.

The local Trophy shop made up the main header plate and also the plaque for the inaugural winner (the committee had already decided who the winner would be) Header plaque was attached.

I know it turned out a bit big and heavy, but the size and constraint of the wheel and plate made the design this way.

Anyway JOB Done

Special thanks to; Alan Bajada, Steve Gunn, Nunzio Barone

Ken Parker 'THE METAL WORKER'



Rares headlight surrounds

The long awaited release from Rare Spares of the LJ Headlight surrounds has arrived. These look like a quality reproduction with a great fit and feel. My only complaint is the paint masking is not to the fold line or consistent between surrounds. A good fix would be to leave them unpainted, and owners paint them to their requirement. This is a minor detail that will only be noticed by the fussiest car owner. Rare Spares redily take note of customer complaints and are doing their best to rectify the issue.

Club price is \$125 a pair which is excellent value and will see the restoration of old genuine items become pointless.

Ed



For Sale/Wanted

Wanted

Help me finish my LJ GTR puzzle.

Looking for a '73 manual gearbox cross-member, would like to swap it for an earlier model.

Handbrake handle in good condition, doesnt have to be perfect, I can sand and polish out marks. This time I won't use a buffing wheel and melt through to metal. :-)

Brass manifold elbow for inlet manifold to vacuum booster.



Call Martin on 0422 223 555

Swap/Sell

I have an All Aussie casing, two piece reverse gear, input shaft with slinger seal and a few other bits that are dated for 73 cars, I think?

This would be wasted on my car so happy to pass on to the right person.



Bits & Pieces

Sunday Cruise...



Mark taking his XU-1 for a Weekend drive.

We have proof..



Trevor, can do two things at once!

New Hairy Soft Toy



'Tickle me Trev'

Under the Scope



How well do you know your Torana parts?
If you don't recognise this bit, the answer is later in the newsletter.

The Barossa Valley Dregs

Since the Barossa story in the last newsletter a few other interesting leftover photos have surfaced which require some explaining.



Ian, all ready to party.



Natalie and Darren letting their hair down.



Trevor and Nunzio hold up the banner that Trevor purchased showing his cars.

S.M.B. part 4

The car is slowly getting closer to the ground, after a delicate operation to jack up the vehicle, remove the cradle and fit the rear end.

All new brake lines and fuel line have been fitted. Shocks, springs, diff and brakes all rebuilt or new.

The engine has been fitted to the KFrame, the gearbox is stripped and a work in progress. Once the box is bolted to the engine it can be rolled in under the car.

After market heater box painted and fitted.

I'm gradually working on the roof lining, a very testing task, not sure if I'd recommend doing this yourself.

All guages have been cleaned and the red needles and red lines have been painted.

Rims polished and tyres fitted.





Club Preferred Businesses

These are businesses that support our club

RARE PARTS
Vehicle Enhancement and Customisation Products

TODD GARDNER
45 Welshpool Road, Welshpool WA 6106
Phone: (08) 9470 1117 Fax: (08) 9470 4448
Email: sales@rareparts.com.au

PETERS SECURITY SCREENS
TREVOR PETERS
Mobile 0-403 333 691

66 McDay Street, Myaree WA 6154
PO Box 4071, Myaree BC WA 6960
Ph: (08) 9317 1717 Fax: (08) 9317 1970
Email: pssecure@harp1.net.au

CLEAR VISION SECURITY - STAINLESS STEEL MESH

HAMILTON SAWMILLS PTY LTD
A.B.N. 44 063 994 909
QUALITY JARRAH & KARRI: Export, Trade and Retail

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Johnathon Eade
Proprietor
47c Norma Road, Myaree Western Australia 6154



If you know of any other business that has supported our club please let me know so they can be included.

Calendar of Events

September

- 4-8th Buick Nationals
- 13 -14th Toranarama, Brisbane
- 27-28th Southern Cross Car Show
- 27-28th Albany Car Show

October

- 4-5th Hotham Valley Show 'n' Shine - Boddington Footy Oval
- 5th Car & Bike Show @ Wesley College South Perth
- 5th VCC Auto jumble sale @ Cannington Show grounds
- 25th Harvey Dickson Rodeo & Car Display @ Boyup Brook
- TBA Phil Memorial Run

November

- 9th Brockwell Memorial Run @ Whiteman Park Motor Museum
- 15th - 16th Revheads Narrogin
- 16th GM Owners Day @ Bassendean Oval

Cruisin' Pain

Spare a thought for this Torana owner. This shows how easily things can go wrong. With what looks like a simple cruise day at the track ends in a ruined car and dented pride.



Photos courtesy of Cruising Brisbane.com

Club Merchandise

Club merchandise available to club members:

Stubby holders

T-shirts

Polo shirts

Jackets

Beanies

Hats

Key rings

Assorted Stickers



For purchasing please see our club merchandise officer Nick Phillips.

Note: club merchandise is generally available at each club meeting and events attended.

Parting pic.....

Nullabour dreaming

