Good day fellow members, as you can see we have a few displays to attend, so we should make an effort to display our engines.

Quite a few things have happened in the last month, our trip to Atherton, the Inter Club Rally at Mackay and the club welcomes a new member Michael Biggs from Herberton. I met Michael briefly when we had our section cars on the line at Herberton, as he lives close to the station.

Once again it’s that time of the year again when we have to consider our club dues. In the next newsletter (June) I will be sending out the application and club rules forms for you to sign and return with the dues.

Merv’s story of his trip to Ballarat finally makes this newsletter on page three and I will try to put something in on the Atherton trip. Also I hope some one will write up something on the inter club rally.

**Coming Events**

Townsville Veteran and Vintage Motor Club at Plantation Creek Ayr on 15/5/5

Holy Spirit School on Ross River Road on 20/5/5 starting 5.30 pm

Toms Toy Box at Home Hill on 22/5/5 starting 9.0 am

John Moffit Festival at Irwin Bank on 28/5/5

FNQ Field Day at Walkamin on 10&11 June

Old Wheels in Motion at Biloela on 16-17 July 2005

---

**Kool Fix**

**ELECTRICAL & REFRIGERATION**

- Electrical Installation & Repairs
- Domestic Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
- Appliance Repairs
- Hot Water System Repairs
- Gas, Electric Fridge Repairs

For sale - Reconditioned caravan & camping fridges
All fridges sold with warranty

Trevor & Carol Philipson

Ph (07) 47798999
The ANZAC Weekend Trip to Atherton
By Keith Hendrick

It was decided a couple of months earlier to take our section cars up to the Railco line Atherton through to Ravenshoe, although most of the line from Herberton to Ravenshoe is not used and is over grown, as well as a bridge is missing. I spent all the spare time I had trying to get the little M15 ready. The MT14 is a fair bit heavier and the ute knows that it is on especially up the Palmiston range, the M15 being lighter I am able to lift it on and off with the crane.

The first group, Ian and Gwenda, Malcolm, Merve, John and myself, left early on Friday morning.

The second group from the Burdekin club, Trevor and Carol, Jim and Helen, Tom and Jan, Keith and Janette, arrived later in the day.

The trip was fine until we passed Cardwell and it started to rain, by the time we pulled up at Tully for smoko, it was a downpour. After a quick stop at Alrish to drop a valve grinder at Paul's place we made good time to Atherton.

We arrived at our motel at Tolga around midday with cold misty rain still about. Being impatient we headed up to Herberton to put the cars on the line, we should have learnt from my first trip when we were drenched on the trip down the range.

It was time to try the crane on the back of my Ute, as far as I was concerned it was a great success I could have my car on the line before the other could back there trailers up to the line.

With all the cars on the line we off, very soon I knew I was in for trouble with the new car, the engine was missing, it started to rain and the start of the line was heavily over grown.

When we reached the second road crossing we were pretty wet and cold and Ian gave me a new plug to try, it seemed to make a difference and we motored on down to the waterfall.

By this time every one was feeling a bit miserable so we turned the cars around to go back, Ian and Gwenda lead the way and we did not see them again until we arrived back at Herberton.

The moment we started the return trip, my car really started to play up, missing and no power, so much so I hooked up to Malcolm and he pushed me home. You could tell by the look on their faces and the slumped shoulders that John and Merve were wishing that they any where but on the section cars, when Malcolm's car gave a couple of misses I recon they were about to cry.

We changed the carby the next day and I had some pretty good runs but it was still weak on the range.

Under load Malcolm's car really sounded good especially up through the tunnel it was deafening.

I have run out of room so I’ll continue next month.

Keith
My Trip to Ballarat
By Merve Carey

I left Townsville on Monday the 18th October with 4 days of hard driving ahead of me.

Monday was long but easy and Tuesday wasn’t too bad with a lot of traffic through Brisbane and the Gold Coast. Stopped overnight at Ballina, the Ronnie and gear were all intact.

Next morning, Wednesday I started off in light rain. Then the fun began. As I drove down the NSW coast, the rain and wind got worse, at times I could not see more than 2 car lengths ahead of me.

I stopped in Sydney for a couple of hours, but the weather did not improve. Leaving Sydney I travelled in peak hour traffic and pouring rain, but as I drove south on the Hume highway, the rain soon began to stop and I enjoyed the rest of the journey to Ballarat.

The temperature was 6 degrees when I arrived and never got over 10 degrees at night for the fortnight that I was there.

Friday morning I went to the showgrounds to check everything out. After introducing myself I was shown where I was to set up my display, when this was done I had a look at the rest of the area. It was quite unbelievable the various types of engines, tractors and farm machinery that R/T built.
After an introduction by Gilbert Tippet (nephew of the founder) on Saturday Morning, it was down to business.

My choke button was sticking but I quickly had it fixed and started the Ronnie.
It ran for 4 1/2 hours (a full tank) without missing a beat.

That Saturday night the entertainment was good, with dinner and the presentation of the trophies.

I was lucky to be sitting in one of the lucky spots and won a bag of spuds. I gave them away as I could not take them out of Victoria.

Sunday turned out pretty disappointing my engine only ran for 3/4 hour and would not start again, I also had trouble with the piping to the water tank and the wind blew over my umbrella damaging it. So I packed up and spent the rest of the day looking at the rest of the displays.

The following weekend I went to a display at Lake Goldsmith this was well worth waiting for. I also included some sight seeing in Victoria and a trip to the Melbourne Cup.

The return trip through the Gold Coast was uneventful but enjoyable.

Merve