

# HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB OF AMERICA SOUTH EASTERN AUSTRALIA

May 26th to June 1st 2024



## 8th International Tour TWEED VALLEY

### TWEED BILLABONG HOLIDAY PARK (Tour Headquarters)

The Billabong Holiday Park has announced they have now reserved all their cabins for entrants to our tour but only till October 25th. There are just 14 cabins remaining as this newsletter goes to press.

### TOUR PRICING

Pricing for this event will be as follows:

Entry Fee AU\$130

This fee covers the Entry and the Driver only. It includes your Invitation to the Mayoral Welcome Cocktail Function, a 5 day Hospitality Suite Pass, your name lanyard, a Rally bag with goodies, and tour routes, a Tour Badge and various subsidised meals and activities throughout the event.

Passenger fee AU\$65

Applies to each passenger 16 years and older and also includes your invitation to the Mayoral Welcome Cocktail Function, a 5 day Hospitality Suite Pass, your name lanyard and various subsidised meals and activities throughout the event.

Children under 16 are free.

Meals, activities and merchandising order options will be available online in February

### WHAT TO EXPECT

Click on this link for a peek at the 2019 HCCA International at Bathurst

[7th HCCA International](#)

### CATCH UP WITH RUSSELL AND CHRISTINE AT HERSHEY

Russell and Chris Holden will be at Hershey in October.

You can catch them at the HCCA tent on the Monday (2nd Oct) and at the Thursday BBQ. They will be in and out of the HCCA tent over the other days.

They are also entering the Hershey Hang Over Tour, so you can ring Russell on his US Cell 757 434 0056 and arrange to meet up in the flea market.

### Newsletter — No 3 August 2023

In this edition:

- ⇒ Billabong reserves cabins
- ⇒ Tour Pricing
- ⇒ What to Expect (Video)
- ⇒ Russell and Christine in Hershey in October
- ⇒ Explanation of Entry and Entry Forms
- ⇒ Date Night
- ⇒ Contact details for further information
- ⇒ Hitching a Ride (Swaggies)
- ⇒ Importing vehicles into Australia

### Dates to Remember

August 2023

Entries open (Aug 28th)

November 2023

Newsletter No 4

February 2024

Meals, activities and merchandise orders open  
Newsletter No 5

April 2024

Newsletter No 6

May 26th 2024

Tour Registration  
Welcome Function

### TOUR WEBSITE

For information on the tour and any updated information regarding accommodation and before/after tour options etc. click on this link and start getting excited.

[www.hccasea.org](http://www.hccasea.org)

## Entries open August 28

### ON-LINE ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Entries for this event will be submitted using our on-line system. The process is simple. Once entries open:



"If I can do it;  
anyone can"  
says Fred

- ◆ Click on the link on our event website and you will be taken to a virtual shop.
- ◆ Select the items and the quantities you want (1 Rally Entry, 2 Passengers etc.) and "Add to Cart"
- ◆ Select "View cart" to check what is in your shopping trolley
- ◆ If ok then press "Pay Now"
- ◆ Type in vehicle details, passengers' names and dietary requirements etc. as prompted.
- ◆ Finally, you need to pay.

For **international entrants** the easiest method is credit card. You simply enter your card details and the system does the rest. You will be charged the total of your shopping trolley (in Australian dollars). The HCCA SEA will bear the transaction commissions. Your card will be debited with the trolley price converted to your local currency. Be aware your bank may charge you a further foreign transaction fee. Note: No checks from Non-Australian banks are acceptable and any direct payment must be net in Australian dollars.

**Australian entrants**, use your credit card, EFT or cheques from Australian banks. The system gives you the BSB, account number and the reference to quote.

You will receive an automated email confirming your entry once payment has been received.

Some may not be comfortable using the on-line system. If you require assistance contact our Australian 24/7 Helpline:

[Michael Holding +61 3 407 008 895 mholding@netspace.net.au]

## THE TUESDAY WILL BE DATE NIGHT

What's that all about?

Date night is a fun evening social function, early in the tour, to enable you to meet fellow entrants.

As you and others move around, working the room, you can introduce yourself and speak with anyone you haven't met before. After 10 minutes you move on to a new prospective friend. The idea being you cannot speak with people you already know.

There is plenty to talk about: The conversation often starts with "Where are you from?" or "What car have you entered?" and often ends with several of the world's problems being solved.

While all this is happening, finger food will be served and, of course, the bar will be open. The concept worked extremely well at the 7th International in Bathurst, with many entrants forming close bonds for the entire event.

## AT A GLANCE

Important things to know or do.

### Eligibility

The event welcomes all vehicles manufactured prior to January 1st, 1916

It is not mandatory to bring a veteran vehicle.

### Expressions of Interest

If you have not done so already, register your EOI on the Tour website to be included in all future communications

### Book Your Accommodation NOW

It is most important that you book your accommodation ASAP. Refer to Newsletter No1 and the Tour website

### Trailer Parking

The Organisers are currently organising trailer parking convenient to the accommodation venues.

### Contact Details

Website: [www.hccasea.org](http://www.hccasea.org)  
Email: [info@hccasea.org](mailto:info@hccasea.org)

### Organising Committee

Russell & Christine Holden  
AUS: +61 422 219 911  
US: +1 757 434 0056

Michael & Claudia Holding  
AUS: +61 407 008 895

Ross & Rhonda Guthrie

Andrea Holden & Tom Killingback

## REMINDER

Newsletter No 2 offered advice on the type of vehicle to bring.

We successfully ran the tougher hills in a single cylinder REO but have suggested bringing a bigger pre -1915 veteran if you have one available.

Power and hills aside, a 4 cylinder tourer offers a vacant rear seat for potential international and interstate mingling.

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## HITCHING A RIDE ON A VETERAN CAR TOUR

As with most international tours, not everyone can bring a vehicle. Although there are no guarantees, we will be doing everything we can to provide seats for Swaggies (those looking for a ride). A Swaggie Captain will oversee the daily assignment of seats and will co-ordinate available Hitchhees with Hitchers looking for a ride. If you have a spare seat make yourself known to the Swaggie Captain or simply put your name on the whiteboard.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR HITCHERS

Throughout the entire event, a whiteboard will be available for entrants to announce that they are seeking a back seat on any or all of the runs.

1. Add your name to the list
2. Smile at everyone you see. (it might secure you a ride)

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR HITCHEES

Throughout the entire event, the same whiteboard will be available for entrants to announce that they are offering a back seat on any or all of the runs.

1. Add your name to the list
2. Be nice to everyone. If your car breaks down, it might be you looking for a ride.

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## IMPORTING VEHICLES INTO AUSTRALIA FOR THE TOUR

We have had a number of enquires regarding importing cars for the Tour from all points of the US and Canada, so outlined below is some basic information that may assist in deciding if this approach is the one for you.

**There are rules and pitfalls.** Yes, every vehicle entering Australia needs to be cleared by Australian Customs & Quarantine. This is normally a reasonably quick process (7 - 10 days) though sometimes there are unavoidable delays! However if you follow the guidelines and give yourself a bit of extra time, it all works out.

**Carnet.** You can import your vehicle into Australia on a Carnet, which legally allows you to drive a car you own on Australian roads without paying sales tax on the import. There are some basic rules, you provide the documentation and assurance that the car will only be used here in Australia for a 365 day period at the end of which (or prior) the vehicle will depart the country. The advantage of this is there are no taxes on the import and the costs are pretty well limited to the Customs and quarantine fees required to process and inspect the vehicle, as opposed to a tax that would be charged on the market value of the car in Australian dollars.

**Road Worthy.** All vehicles participating in the International Tour must be road-worthy, ie good brakes, steering, no worn out tyres and where applicable useable lights. If the vehicle is imported under International Carnet, then there is no need to undergo further checking here in Australia as the existing country of origin rules apply to the vehicle while in Australia or any other country covered by the Carnet.

**Asbestos.** There has been a lot made on the internet of the Australian requirement that there be no Asbestos in vehicles entering Australia. There is no doubt that if Australian Border Protection do have reason to consider that there is asbestos, the process of investigation is both time consuming and expensive. However having said that, asbestos checks are random and you can provide a "asbestos certificate" which assists with the process.

### Shipping Options:

1. Direct is quoted as being 21 to 23 days from Long Beach to Sydney, and 35 to 37 days from Philadelphia to Sydney. It sometimes takes a few

days longer. Direct is considerably more expensive than transit but also quicker and is by far and away our preferred shipping option.

2. Transit is cheaper but slower – generally 6 - 8 weeks and travels through one or more ports and potentially one or more ships in its transit to Australia. The cost factor ensures that this is the most generally used service by other importers, but not one we recommend by choice.

**Shipping cost.** From experience, international shipping from the West coast works out at approximately AU\$5000 per vehicle (US\$3500) each way. East Coast is about AU\$1200-\$1500 more expensive depending on the port of departure.

**Combining Shipping.** For ease and cheaper rates, 3 cars in a container makes more sense and also means that cars are not being loaded with other freight. From the enquiries we have this may be a difficult proposition as the locations are spread far and wide. However placing 3 x Model T's on the deck of a 40' container will be far more economical than sending one over as a separate unit. We will try and place individuals that are interested in shipping cars in contact with each other to see what can be worked out. If you have any specific questions please give Russell a call and he'll see how we can help.

**Sending a car over and then selling it here.** There has been some discussion about importing a vehicle into Australia and then leaving it here for sale. This may result in a virtually cost free experience from an importing perspective. There are different rules for importing a vehicle that is intended to stay here and anyone considering this should again contact Russell directly as he has extensive experience in this process and can talk you through the process and likely financial outcomes.

**Exchange Rates.** Web sites such as XE.com have live update on the international currency exchange, however the "official" import rate is generally a few cents less than the rate indicated on the net. Currently the \$US is in a very strong position against the AU\$ so international visitors are getting a great deal. This has been reasonably steady for the last decade with fluctuations of 5-8 cents over that period, so you get a good "bang for your buck" on exchange.