

## **FEBRUARY RUN - AUSTRALIAN GARDEN CRANBOURNE**

### **Run Report by Ian Maclean**

At 9.30 on a beautiful sunny summer's morning 6 earlies, their owners and the seemingly ever present '46 Buick gathered at the clubrooms for a quick run in convoy down the freeways to the Australian Garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens site at Cranbourne.

Those who did not want to run in convoy departed a few minutes prior to the main group who headed for the Monash. After leaving the clubrooms with Richard in the lead, various sets of traffic lights broke up the convoy however we were soon back to formation cruising with the Buick doing duty once again as camera car.

Unfortunatley, out of date Melway and Google Maps entries sent us to the back gate of the gardens. Luckily we were able to take a short cut through the racecourse and get round to the main entrance. Waiting for us in the carpark were 6 more earlies whose owners had kept space to enable us to park together in one long row.

The Australian Garden was established in 2009 and comprises a 15 hectare contemporary landscaped space in the centre of one of Victoria's most precious areas of native bushland. The gardens contain over 170,000 individual plants and showcases the beauty and diversity of our flora in a variety of settings that reflect the true essence of the Australian landscape.

The facilities on the site are excellent and include the Garden Explorer, a small rubber tyred train which enables visitors to cover a large area without too much effort. Any club member who was unable to join us for the wonderful day out really missed a treat!

At 12.30 we set off, again in convoy for the short drive to Blue Hills Residences in Cranbourne East. Peter and Cynthia Charman had kindly offered us the use of the village gardens and gazebo for a BBQ lunch. Upon arrival we found several other members already set up and, given the heat of the afternoon, we were please to find a portable shade cover set up as well as plenty of shady trees to park and/or sit under. With a great combination of BYO and club provided fare I doubt that anyone went home hungry.

As is always the case, the cluster of FX/FJ's attracted a good number of village residents and visitors to inspect the cars and talk with owners who are usually happy to have a good chat.

What a great day out! Good weather, good company, good food, a good drive and two great places to visit, it is not surprising that we had such a good turnout. Many thanks to Peter and Cynthia for organising this run.

#### **Members with Earlies**

Peter and Cynthia Charman  
Ray and Valda Dagers  
Rod and Sharon Grummitt  
Ian and Jane Maclean  
Richard Fox  
Trevor and Sue Dempsey  
Colin and Marg Hogan  
Mark and Janet Waghorn  
Julie and Chris Shepherd

Peter Corrigan  
John Shore  
Jeff and Suzanne White  
Ray and Diane Eaton  
Alan, Jan, Michael and Brett Delzoppo  
Chris, Jane, Angus, Chloe and Livy Fox  
Lyn and Chris Kane  
Ray and Janet Howlett  
And just to make sure, Wags and Janet!

#### **Members without**

Allen Newsome & Wayne  
Scott Woodbridge

#### **Visitors**

Mary and Bill

