



The Association of Veteran Car Clubs in Australia (TAVCCA)
www.tavcca.org.au

PRESS RELEASE – TAVCCA Montagu Trophy Recipient 2019



Award Recipient:	<i>John Burke</i>
TAVCCA Member Club:	<i>Veteran Car Club of Australia – New South Wales</i>
Press release date:	<i>Thursday, 26 September 2019</i>

Details of nominee’s significant contributions to the veteran car club movement, either at national or member club level:

John Burke joined the Veteran Car Club NSW (Inc) as a junior member at age 16. John attended his first international rally in 1970 at age 6 with his parents in their 1916 Hupmobile. John joined the Australian Army as an Army apprentice in 1980. During his time in the army, John was posted to Queensland and Victoria where he continued to be involved with the veteran car clubs in those states, particularly in Queensland during the early part of the 1980s. He was also an active member of the Historic Motorcycle Club of Queensland where one of his motorcycles was awarded the Phil Irving Concourse outright winner.

John established himself in the Sandhurst Historic Vehicle club in Bendigo as the Vice President and was instrumental in encouraging veteran vehicles to participate in the annual motoring event. John

was posted back to the Hunter Valley where he transferred to the Defence public service and returned to the Newcastle Branch of the VCCA NSW Inc. John was soon elected Chairman of the branch and has held this position for the past 30 years. John has the respect of all branch members for his enthusiasm and encouragement for the use and preservation of veteran vehicles. John is one of the vehicle roadworthy inspectors (30 years) and has organised and run one of the annual branch tours for 28 years along with many of the monthly day runs. John is currently the NSW dating chairman, a position he has held for five years providing advice and clarity to many veteran vehicle owners. John was a member of the committee to investigate and recommend that the VCCA NSW constitution be changed to allow for further Branches within the State. John Burke was made a LIFE MEMBER of the VCCA NSW in 2009 which illustrates the high esteem which he is held.

John Burke was the driving force in establishing the National Veteran Motorcycle rallies in 1997 where he directed the first national event for Veteran motorcycles only. He was the instigator and supporter of future veteran motorcycle events encouraging and maintaining the continued support from the infancy of the first rally. The rally is a recognised motorcycle event and is conducted every two years on a state rotation attracting over 100 veteran motorcycles it is truly a national event. John was appointed the National co-ordinator for the veteran motorcycle events for life by the riders at the first rally.

John has been the rally Director for his much loved Hupmobile organisation within Australia on two separate occasions, he directed the National Hupmobile 100 years of Hupmobile in 2008 the first week long event for Hupmobile vehicles in Australia and again was the rally Director for the national event in 2016. He was awarded the National Hupmobile Doering award in 2008 for services to the Hupmobile movement in Australia. John was the rally Director of the very successful 2018 TAVCCA national rally in Forbes NSW. Through John's support, this rally highlighted the involvement of the Association of Veteran Car Clubs Australia.

The Association of Veteran Car Clubs in Australia (TAVCCA)

John Burke joined the Association following hearty discussions around veteran vehicles at the national rally in WA in 2007. John has held the positions of NSW delegate since 2008 and has been the national Chairman on two separate occasions. During his last term 2017-2018, he instigated changes to review the branding and publicity surrounding the Association. He introduced the midterm chairman's report and successfully introduced and facilitated changes to the business within the association. John has a passion for the association and veteran vehicles within Australia. He is keen to see the organisation forge ahead supporting advocacy and branding.

National Veteran Motor Cycle Rally's

Organised the first national motor cycle rally in 1997. The event is held every two years, and John has been the National Co-ordinator and has attended every event held since.

National Hupmobile Rally's

John has organised 2 of these events and has gone to great effort to encourage the participation of veteran Hupmobiles. These events have been extremely successful.

National Veteran Rally's

When only 6 years old he attended his first rally – the International Rally in 1970 with his parents. This gave him the taste for veteran motoring, and he has since travelled to all States to participate in National events including the multicylinder rally's, the two cylinder rally's, motor cycle rallies and

Hupmobile rallies. John and his family have travelled to all States within Australia to participate in National events including the national multicylinder, 1 & 2 cylinder, motorcycle and Hupmobile rallies. John has attended the three national events in WA. He is a keen supporter and encourages the use of veteran vehicles.

Assistance to other members

John is a great inspiration to those who are restoring veteran vehicles. He is very enthusiastic, and this transfers to all those he advises and assists. He is free with sharing his knowledge and his large amount of technical data. He has assisted with parts and the location of vehicles for other restorers. On at least two occasions he travelled overseas to help a fellow restorer to locate and evaluate parts for his restorations. On another occasion, he travelled a considerable distance to successfully bid for a veteran car for an instate purchaser who could not personally attend. He has also travelled far and wide to assist others in picking up vehicles and parts. John has encouraged others outside the veteran car club to use his cars, thus attracting additional numbers and potential members to the organisation.

Restoration of veteran vehicles

Together with father Max, John has restored many veteran cars and motor cycles. Nearly all the work is performed in-house by them such as white metalling bearings, machining, mechanical, woodwork, sheet metal, painting, upholstery, electrical and even some nickel plating. They create vehicles which are very reliable and well-presented and a true testament to their abilities and perseverance.

Personal Collection

John has a very impressive collection of veteran cars and motorcycles.

TAVCCA Congratulates John on his contribution to the veteran vehicle movement and his recognition in being awarded the 2019 Montagu Trophy.