Thunderbirds of Queensland Inc.

SOUNDS of THUNDER

Volume 21 Number 2

September / October 2011
The Thunderbirds of Queensland Inc. is a non profit organization dedicated to the restoration, preservation and enjoyment of Thunderbird passenger vehicles built by the Ford Motor Company.

Email - contact@toqinc.org

Thunderbirds of Queensland Inc is now on

**Facebook**

Login to your account and search for Thunderbirds of Queensland

Everyone is welcome to join the group
Your pictures and stories are most welcome
September
Sun 25th  Club run to The Barn, 1709 Flagstone Creek Road
Meet at BP Truck Stop 9.30am for 10.00am departure,
The Barn has a great food and drink menu and is situated at the
bottom of The Toowoomba range .Info– Scott 4697 5334.

October
Fri 2nd   Committee & Social Evening
Sun 9th   Club run to the Tramway Museum, Ferny Grove.
Meet at Harry’s Diner, Newmarket Road, 10.30 for 11.00.
Museum tour 12.30 pm cost $13 per person, BYO picnic lunch.

November
Fri 4th   Committee & Social Evening

Sun 6th   Club run to Atkinson's Dam for the annual
Yankee Doodle American Car Cruise, see flier on page 19.

Sun 27th  Club Christmas party, Catered lunch subsidised by the club,
BYO drinks, nibbles and deserts, to be held at Dave & Jeny’s,
from 10 am

December
Fri 2nd   Committee & social evening.

Every Friday night  -  Elizabeth Street Shops, Acacia Ridge.
Designated Events

September

11th Kilcoy classic on wheels presented by Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club. Info- contact Richard White ph 5497 2563.

18th Beaudesert swap, showgrounds from 6am vehicle display $3 entry Info– ph 0428 146176 — 5544 8174.

18th Caboolture Historical Village Mega motor show, Info– 0447 228651.

25th Noosa Beach Classic Car show

25th Jimboomba Rotary Club Hot Rod & Bike show, Jimboomba Park. From 6am $10 vehicle entry Info– Des ph 0418 889635

25th Eliminators Hot Rod Car & Bike show Beenleigh showgrounds Swap from 6am, show from 9am, $5 entry Info-Mick 3801 3000 bh

October

14th-16th Bagara Beach Camp Out presented by Rum City Rods & customs, Bundaberg. Info– Shane ph 0411 448380— Ross ph 0417 779448

15th Yatala Drive & Jive In presented by Kustoms of Australia Gold Coast, From 3pm, band, trade stalls, Info– Adrian ph 5523 2076

16th Harigans Rod & Custom show, Drift Inn, Calypso Bay, Jacobs Well. From 9am $10 car/$5 per, Info– Peter 0418 190103—Gerry 5546 1997

29th Halloween Rod Run presented by Rods Inc, club rooms Burchill St, Loganholme start 6.30 pm , Info– Frank ph 0439 757732 / 5547 0073.

29th The South Burnett Motors In Motion Day, Kingaroy Aerodrome, Military And Civilian Planes, vehicles, rods, bikes, Info– Steven 0488 760577

30th Goodna RSL Car show, Evan Marginson Park, $5 ,Info– Deb 3288 3916

30th The Scenic Rim Motorsports Ass., presents the Veresdale Rod & Custom show Veresdale Hotel, from 7am, $10 car, Info club member Matt 0427 124 756.

November

6th Yankee Doodle American Car Cruise, See flier page 19
The year just seems to be slipping away with lots of events for the car enthusiast to attend. Great days were had at Moogerah Dam and Mount Mee (see reports in this issue). To all Facebook devotees, we now have a Facebook Group. To find us type Thunderbirds of Queensland Inc. into Facebook search. Anyone can join, so please post some photos of your ride. We currently have 27 members and growing.

A Hearty welcome to new club members Dianne Dignam, Shane Gilchrist, Barry Ralph, Chris Poulsen, Eddie Filliponi, Tony Lake, and Ray Ball see you on a run or at a meeting soon. With the Aussie Dollar remaining high we may see more TBirds on our shores.

Thanks to members who have submitted articles to the Mag. We all enjoy reading the experiences others have had with their cars, so if you have some photos and a story you would like to share please contact the editor Dave Bain (davebaint66@hotmail.com)

Christmas approaches which draws our attention to the festive season and our Club Christmas Function. As yet just where and what are not etched in stone but… Save The Date.. Sunday Lunch 27th November. Please submit any ideas for this event by our next club meeting 7th October.

Hope to see you all on our next run to the Barn Flagstone Creek Rd.

Cheers for now
Stewart Harvey
Hey there Kruisers, here comes another issue of Sounds of Thunder. Running a little late but we are coming to you with a magazine packed full of news and events, pictures and stories from the world of Thunderbird. I know it’s a busy hustle out there what with kids an jobs an bills to pay, but hey, summers coming and before you know it Christmas will be on us. So get that old Thunderbird out of her cobwebs and come cruisin with us. The next run is a great country drive to the Barn to feed and relax with Scott & Sara Speaking of great country drives catch Johnny’s story on the Mt Mee run, organized by Kieran, and did you know that we did this same run 10 years ago? That’s history for you. I here that congratulations are due to Peter (spaceman) Boyle, (cos we only see him once every orbit), for cleaning up Best classic car 40/59 and Peoples choice at Motorfest, Good One! Well we found Johnny’s Icon and he’s in the centerfold, thanks for your help mate! Gee and I thought a mouse was something that ate the T’bird interior when you left it in tha Barn…..I’m getting the hang of it! Keep on Kruisin...Davo

New Members

Shane Gilcrist
1958 Thunderbird

Barry Ralph
1968 Cougar

...more on Pg 8
Chris Poulsen
1965 Landau

Tony Lake
1969 Landau

Dianne Dignam
1964 Hardtop

Ray Ball
1970 Mercury Cougar XR7
I’ve always been a Ford V8 crank. It’s something I inherited from my father who had Fords all his life. His crowning glory was a beautiful 74 XB V8 Hardtop.

My first new car was an XY Falcon V8, followed by a ZC Fairlane, 73 Galaxie LTD (which was my family car for 6 years), XC Falcon V8 and a 79 F250. I’m one of those people who buy cars with great intentions of doing them up, but somehow never find the time and eventually sell them. Some examples are a 68 Galaxie, 64 Compact Fairlane, 64 F100, 49 Plymouth and a 70 Capri.

I’ve always liked and wanted a Thunderbird but unfortunately what I preferred was a little out of my price range. My thoughts were a Series Three convertible or perhaps a Series Four. So I started a subscription to Just Cars magazine to see what was out there. It didn’t take long to realise that I had to broaden my search. Because I don’t have time or the skills to restore, I needed a Thunderbird that I could afford and ‘drive away’.

I hadn’t considered a Series Five Thunderbird until I saw a 69 Landau for sale at Ron McCanns Undercover Cars at Capalaba. So I visited Ron to check it out and immediately liked the car. As soon as I took it for a drive, I was hooked!

The car was imported from the USA in 2005 and originally restored by Phil Reynolds. At that time it was a member of the club. It has had one or two other owners since, who have completed other restoration tasks. The motor has been rebuilt by Bob Taylor and runs like a dream.

So now I am the owner of a Series Five Thunderbird, or a Glamour Bird as the series is known (who on earth thought that one up!). I look forward to meeting you all on a club run in the future…. Tony Lake
Suzie and Dean Arnold dreamt of building a show car that would evoke the spirit of the dream cars that manufacturers used to build in the '50s and '60s. They decided to use a 1961 Thunderbird as the base vehicle and got long-time collaborator Don Johnson to finalize the design. Then Dean got to work building it. The result is the car you see here. To most of the people passing it at SEMA 2008 this week, they probably thought it was a vintage dream car rather than a modern custom. It certainly looked like it had just been dusted off and shined up after sitting mothballed for the past 40 years. Every detail seems period correct and we particularly love that Batmobile-esque double-bubble roof.
Mt Mee is one of the prettiest places to get away from it all on the outskirts of Brisbane and one of my favorites. It was the destination for our August club run. The run included a tour through the Samford Valley into Dayboro where we had planned to stop for morning tea and then up to Mt Mee National Park for picnic/BBQ lunch.

Fortunately the wet weather on the Saturday before made way for a beautiful clear late winter's day, perfect weather for a cruise in the cars. We met up at Harry's Diner at Windsor then made our way out to Dayboro where we met up with Kieran, had a coffee and sampled the delights of the Dayboro Bakery.

After a very scenic drive we arrived at Mt Mee National Park. It was a surprise to see we were one of only a small number that had ventured to this normally quite popular spot... By now it was lunchtime so we set ourselves up and were soon joined by a number of Kookaburras obviously looking for a FREE feed... of course the National Park rules stipulate no feeding of wildlife so the locals have taken to helping themselves, lets say I was a bit surprised when one particularly cheeky bird swooped in and tried to steal the salad roll I was holding in my hand.
After lunch a group of us took a walk down to the water falls, it was quite a long walk down hill all the way by gravel road then bush track, of course that meant it was up hill all the way back. The kids running ahead on the track stumbled upon a common tree snake and quickly ran back to report their find. Carl Hudson then proceeded to show us his snake handling skills coercing it towards a small palm that it happily climbed to safety. Before long we were back at the picnic grounds and being rustled up by Merron for an obligatory group photo. By now the day was coming to an end with some starting to make their journey home.

On the way back a group of us stopped off at the Pit Stop Café on Mt Mee for afternoon tea and took in the wonderful views back towards Brisbane. Well worth the stopover.

Thanks to all that made it along certainly a great day was had by all who attended.

Cheers Johnny

Left to Right…
Jane and Mick, Dave and Jenny, Kieran, Johnny, Gina & Carl (the snake charmer) Hudson, Mark & Rosemary, Bill & Helen, Dennis & Ray…

Front row…
Jesse Mae & Kirk
In This Issue:

Servicing Car Air Conditioners
Danbury Mint Limited Edition Thunderbirds

1958 Ford Thunderbird Watson Custom

Once Larry Watson took delivery of his new pink 1958 Thunderbird -- yes it was really pink -- he was off and running. He lowered and shaved it, modified the exhaust and added chromed lake pipes, and made some other minor changes. Most significantly, he wanted to give it a wild paint job. He started laying yards of tape on the car, bringing to life an idea that he had been kicking around for a while...panel painting! In a matter of weeks, his revolutionary Thunderbird was turning the custom car crowd on its head.

Now, you can see the final dramatic results duplicated for the very first time in a precision 1:24 scale replica. using the same panel painting techniques that Watson used to create his masterpiece, our painters carefully applied Purple Kandy over a silver base coat, and then accented the showroom finish with fine lavender pin striping.

Production is strictly limited to only 2,500 models – not a single piece more! Scale 1:24; 8-1/2" in length. $149.00

1964 Ford Thunderbird

Much like a fine tailored suit, the hand-polished Vintage Burgundy Metallic exterior of our '64 T-Bird is simply extraordinary, especially when accented with exact replicas of Ford's trademark chrome foil insignias, badging, lettering, and all the other sparkling accents that made the original so special. The whitewall tires complement the car's unique brightwork enhanced roofline. Everything is uniquely Thunderbird, including the beaklike prow and expansive, twin rectangular taillights. This first ever 1964 T-Bird limited edition model is truly a masterpiece.

Scale 1:24; 8" in length. $149.00
Boy... By all accounts as good a turnout as previous years. The oval was just a huge selection of Yankee steel on wheels, early Aussie classics and cousins of Herbie the love bug, and some awesome rat rods parked all the way back to the entrance. There were plenty of cars I haven’t seen at other shows this year, so I spent hours looking over some great resto’s, originals and custom work. The music played all day with some great bands as the crowds filled the indoor –outdoor dance floors. There was a lot of fun during the fashion parade, 40’s & 50’s styled swim wear, day and evening wear, even those country line dancers kicked up there heels in scootin-tootin boots, flashy trims and hat wear. Around the oval was one continuous line of stall holders with top quality gear! The food range was extensive from Indian to Japanese, vegetarian to good old hot dogs. Plenty of barbers cutting “slick back n sides”, rockabilly style photos, and girls doing classes on styling and makeup.- - - With jumping castles, Ferris wheels and spray on tats for the kids, there was something for everyone, a real carnival event with real colourful people, and very smoothly run event. I ran into Rob Cupo who ran into Johnny, and I’m sure there were other members around, a few other friends rocked up, and the customary chatting about paint jobs n wheels was done! Aaannd another beautiful Queensland day… It doesn’t get much better!

Kieran.
Well it may have been an overcast and cooler day than predicted but that didn't stop the crowds of enthusiastic American Metal Heads from turning out to play with their cruisers, rods and muscle cars. As you can see by the track shots participants did not hold back at the chance to strut their stuff much to the delight of bystanders and spectators. This event is escalating into the major American car doo of the year, not just another car show, with track events to provide something that the vehicles were made for. Thunderbirds that did show up for the day were almost overshadowed by Cougars as an undercover Sheriff Phil brought his latest cruiser along, then persuaded Ray that he needed a Cougar and to join the club. Not to mention one Barry Ralph with Cougar, liked what he saw and joined also. But that’s just great, we all had a terrific day, even Carlos who tried to lose some weight on the track by sheading his fender skirts! New member Shane’s white 58’ was looking cool and we even made room for Bruce’s BIG Red Ranchero. Our real estate was staked out and tented early thanks to Kieran. What a big day out…… Davo.

Lakeside All American Day

DUDE courtesy of Kieran
BIKE courtesy of T’bird American Imports
Yankee Doodle
Jim Eames Memorial
American Car Cruise
to
Atkinsons Dam
Sunday 6th November 2011

all
American Vehicles
Hot Rods & Customs
Welcome

Meet - BP Truck Stop Boundary Rd Rocklea
9.00 am for 9.30 am departure
Route: Ipswich Rd, Warrego Hwy, Brisbane Valley Highway
Stopover at Fernvale for morning Tea
Then on to Atkinsons Dam via Coominya

Hosted by Thunderbirds of Queensland Inc.

email: contact@toqinc.org or call Dave on 0427 034151
**55 Ford Thunderbird with Hardtop**

Body off OZ Rods resto to assembly point with some component reconditioning required. Photos available. Near perfect body and paint RHD conversion with modern rack and pinion, suspension overhauled, new ball joints etc. Hidden vintage air a/c and heater with compressor bracketing completed. Mild custom look with spare tyre recessed drop tank to give practical boot space. Reconditioned Y block with recond FMX auto fitted. Custom made header pipes, new dizzy with taco drive and new 650 holley. Re trimmed eats and some other new parts. All non standard parts and modifications can be removed to take car back to original should you choose. This car has had an embarrassing amount of money spent on it, too many projects so car must sell.

Ph. Kev 0402 334 423

---

**FOR SALE**

65 Thunderbird Hardtop

Black, with black interior, new carpet and under lay. New seat cushions, new trunk mat kit. Rebuilt carby, heads and gearbox. Near new brakes, starts and runs real well, on club rego at present.

Contact— Dave on 0427 034 151 for more information.
The Thunderbird Registry exists as a tool for us to further our appreciation for The World’s Most Wanted Car .... The car everyone would love to own! This is the World’s largest on-line database for Ford Thunderbirds.
Mercury's got it. A quote about Cougar that says it better than we could.

"Driving comfort is so groovy, owners might want to move 15 or 20 miles farther from work just for the pleasure of the ride back and forth each day. Would you believe five?"

Motor Trend magazine

The Fine Car Touch inspired by the Continental.