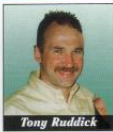




# AJR Automotive

## Autumn 2003 NEWSLETTER



Tony Ruddick

### NEW NEWSLETTER FORMAT

Welcome to the new style newsletter aimed at giving you more helpful motoring information and news on local issues. We are always endeavouring to improve our service offering to our clients, thank you for your past support.

If we can customise and cater more specifically in our contact with you in any way please tell us so we can record this on our computer with your vehicle details. Some examples from you have been; getting the vehicle back by 3pm, pick up & drop off out of working hours, paying the following day or over the phone and, the usage of our free courtesy cars.

Tony Ruddick

## Local Identity wins Festival Auto Prize



Jenny Grainger's 1954 Austin A40 has taken out Croydon Festivals "Best Presented Vehicle Prize" in what is the first public display of the car. "I'm both shocked and thrilled at winning this prize among so many other competitors" Jenny exclaimed.

Jenny's Austin has been fully restored to original pristine condition and been in her possession for the last 28 years. "I even have the original manuals that came with the car," said Jenny.

*\*Jenny's Austin was mechanically checked & detailed at A.J.R Automotive.*



1954 Austin A40 "Best Presented Vehicle Prize"

### RENOVATIONS NEARLY COMPLETED

Thank you for everyone's patience & understanding while renovations have taken place recently within the Premises. Air Conditioning of the waiting room and office plus the addition of better staff lunch area means a more comfortable area for clients and better workshop floor utilisation. We now think we have the coolest and cleanest Mechanical workshop in Melbourne!



### VACC You're in good hands



The Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce has

launched a media campaign to lift consumer recognition of the brand and of the professionalism of its members. TV and print media advertising will

run through Victoria and Tasmania (TACC) over 3 years.

To be accepted as a VACC member requires high standards of criteria in formal mechanical qualifications, premises and equipment.

AJR Automotive has been a VACC member for 5 years.

# How can we serve you better?

*A survey of client's opinions is now being undertaken in order to continually improve our service offering to you.*

*Please give us your views.*

## **We ask:**

Why do you choose to have your vehicle serviced & repaired here?

What things are important to you when having your vehicle repaired?

What things do we do that you really like?

What changes could be made here to better suit you?

What would be required by us for you to refer other people here?

## Ethanol damage to engines confirmed

The Federal Government will push for mandatory labelling of petrol mixed with ethanol after studies released yesterday found the additive could damage vital engine parts.

The studies, on an outboard motor and a garden trimmer, found 10 per cent ethanol content was relatively safe, but 20 per cent caused major problems.

Federal Environment Minister David Kemp said there was still no proof that the additive — derived from grain crops or sugar cane — caused damage to car engines. But he hoped the states would force fuel out-

lets to carry ethanol labelling within two months.

A recent Environment Australia study of 615 fuel samples found 9 per cent contained ethanol. Seven samples had more than 20 per cent ethanol, and another 38 had between 10 and 20 per cent.

The study of ethanol's impact on engines found the 10 per cent blend caused no substantial changes, except slight swelling and blistering on the carburettor and an increase in carbon deposits on pistons.

But when the fuel contained 20 per cent ethanol, substantial

problems were encountered. The outboard engine stalled on occasions, exhaust gas temperature increased by a significant margin and in some cases there was extensive corrosion of engine parts.

Dr Kemp said the studies increased pressure on the states and territories to require labelling of fuel that has been mixed with ethanol.

The studies came after BP dumped a trial of a 10 per cent ethanol blend in six Brisbane service stations. The company said demand from motorists collapsed after controversy grew over the additive. **AAP**

## Preferred LMCT Thames Enterprises / Jeff Wilson 9725 0897

We have been very happy with the used car sales family run business of Thames Enterprises. Jeff Wilson has a preference for quality cars at great prices.

Recent news of corruption inside Vicroads has resulted in on-going repossessions of a huge number of Luxury and late model cars bought privately.

Buying through a Licensed Motor Car Trader such as Thames Enterprises provides a vehicle is not stolen.

[www.e-carsales.com.au](http://www.e-carsales.com.au)

**2000 VT series 11 SS V8 Automatic body kit**  
5.7ltr 77,000km 12 months reg **\$29,990**

**2001 Hyundai Ascent gold all electrics**  
manual air p.steer 45,000km **\$13,990**

**2000 Ford AU11 Air p.steer CD elec windows**  
rear spoiler auto white 60,000km **\$18990**

**1996 Ford Festiva blue manual 2 door**  
96,000km **\$5990**

# Towing trailers



*With school holidays just round the corner its good to be aware of our trailer use responsibilities on the road.*

## THE LAWS (a brief summary)

- All trailers must be in roadworthy condition. Basically this means all lights working, good tyres, structurally sound and good coupling and safety chain.
- The total mass (weight) of the trailer and its load should not be more than the mass of the towing vehicle.
- Nobody is allowed to ride in a trailer.
- Small trailers, which are not boat trailers and weigh less than 200kg unloaded, are less than 3m overall lengths and are narrower than the towing vehicle, **do not** have to be registered.
- All trailers must have a number plate. Either that of the towing vehicle or the registered trailer number plate.
- 'P' Plate drivers are permitted to tow a trailer, but 'L' Plate drivers are not.

## THE VEHICLE

- Vehicles need to be sufficiently powerful and heavy enough for the load.
- Vehicle manufacturers usually state the maximum capacity a car may tow.
- A properly designed and fitted towbar should be marked with their load capacity and the vehicle model they are designed for.
- Towbars must not protrude dangerously or obscure the rear number plate.
- Allow for greater fuel consumption and extra strain on brakes, cooling system, transmission and suspension.

## THE DRIVER

- Drivers need to understand the general principals of driving with a trailer before attempting to tow in traffic or at highway speeds.
- Greater stopping distances must be allowed. Acceleration will be much slower. Keep left whenever possible.
- Allowance must be made for the extra length and width of trailers and their tendency to "cut in" on corners and curves.
- Reversing with a large trailer or caravan takes practice. It is a good idea to have an observer watching the rear.
- Brakes should be applied early and smoothly especially in the wet or when cornering.
- If a trailer starts to sway (snaking) the tow vehicles brakes **should not** be applied, except as an absolute last resort. If the trailers brakes can be operated by themselves they should be applied gently, otherwise a steady speed or slight acceleration should be held if possible until the sway stops.

## LOADING TRAILERS

- For safety reasons it is important that trailers are not overloaded in any respect, ie. Have a greater total mass than the ATM (Aggregate Trailer Mass) recommended by the manufacturer, or exceed tyre or tow coupling capacity.
- Loads should be kept as low as possible and positioned as close to the axle as possible with about 60% of the total mass forward of the centre of the axle.
- All loads must be properly secured to trailers.
- Have trailer wheel bearings checked before a trip. Avoid recapped tyres.



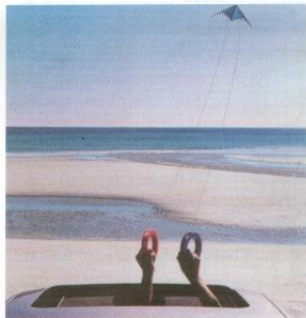
AJR Automotive  
9/3 Coolstore Road, Croydon 3136, Victoria, Australia



If Undelivered  
Please return to:



**AJR Automotive**  
**9/3 Coolstore Road**  
**Croydon 3136**  
**Victoria**  
**Australia**



## **EASTER CLOSURE DATES** **Book Early for School Holidays**

We will be closed on Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th of April being the **whole second week of the Victorian school holidays**. Thank you for your understanding. Please book early for this period.

Good Friday	18th April
Easter Monday	21 April
AJR closed	22nd to 24th April
Anzac Day	25th April
AJR reopen	Mon 28th April