

# The EastLink Great Australian Rally

20 January 2019



Proudly brought to you by  
the All British Classics Car  
Club Vic Inc.



What do food vans, a Broadcast Van, the Navy Band, ducks, two lifesavers, drinking fountains, and a drone have in common? Cruden Farm. What a magnificent area for the All British Classics Car Club, proudly sponsored by EastLink to present to the people of Victoria a display of cars 25 years and older. The number of almost 1000 vehicles surpassed previous Great Australian Rallies. The entourage commenced from various parts such as EastLink Ringwood, Melbourne, Rowville and Hastings Marina. It gave many the opportunity to meet and greet and enjoy free sausage sizzles before travelling to Cruden Farm in Langwarrin. Also, what a sight it was as the cars snaked their way along the road into the various areas designated for their mark.

Clubs selected vehicles for display and specific ones for judging. It was quite a trek to walk the fields but what a glorious sight. So many different makes, colours, sizes and shapes. A veritable feast for the eyes. Many ideas were springing to the mind of what next for the garage! The event took some time to organise the intricacies of such an enormous project, but the ABCCC organizing committee did a fantastic job in bringing together this presentation of cars. The glorious gardens of Cruden Farm as a backdrop for this event were a delight as was the nearby lake. Another smaller pond near the entrance was graced with ducks and a life saver. Although many brought their own picnic baskets and tables, the food vans worked a treat keeping everyone satisfied, and the music from the Broadcast Van and the Royal Australian Navy Jazz Band was just what we needed with easy music to enjoy. A great idea was the drinking 'troughs' throughout for people to use and refill their bottles. It was a hot day. A drone flew overhead, and the videos and photos from that would be a real treat.

Rex Hall, head of the organizing committee sought out the new venue and naming right sponsor, wandered Cruden Farm to make sure everything was going to plan needs a well-earned rest. A tremendous job, Rex, you did it well. Thank you and your members of the EastLink Great Australian Rally organizing committee and the volunteers in bringing this event together. It's the work of a team that makes such an event successful.

Thank you, EastLink for joining forces with the All British Classics Car Club. It is crucial to have strong support and to work collectively to the fruition of such a journey. Other supporters were: Peter Mac Cancer Foundation (the primary recipient of monies raised), Coles, Frankly Frankston Magazine, Liqui Moly, Meguiar's, the Navy Band, CFA Hastings and Western Port Marina.

A special mention to Cruden Farm with its magnificent Murdoch house surrounded by a well set out garden with a lake and views across to take the imagination to another time and place.

Words by Anne Kruger



## EastLink Great Australian Rally Winners

<b>Veteran:</b>	Benz Patent Motor Wagon	- Jim French
<b>Vintage:</b>	Elite 1923 12/40	- Graeme Simpson
<b>Early Classic:</b>	Chevrolet Phantom 1932	- Wayne Robertson
<b>Late Classic:</b>	Fiat 850 Sport Coupe 1969	- Tony and Shirley Di Gennaro
<b>Late American</b>		
<b>Classic:</b>	Ford Victoria 1956	- Peter Hibbert
<b>Late British Classic:</b>	Morris Mini 850 1961	- Leigh Rawlings
<b>Commercial:</b>	Bedford K Model 1948	- Warren Dodd
<b>Motor Cycle:</b>	V-Twin Zenith 1929	- Alan Greenway
<b>Club Display</b>	CHAGA – Classic Historical Automobile Club	
<b>Best Outright Winner</b>	Ford Victoria 1956	- Peter Hibbert