

Grumpy Torque



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February 14th 2023
Official Newsletter of
The Guildford Grumpies
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www.guildfordgrumpies.com

A Big Few Weeks ahead at Grumpies

Gday all! Make sure you check out the club event dates listed in this weeks Grumpy Torque;

We are just a few short weeks away from our Major Annual Event, The Peter Turner Show and shine; If you haven't put your name down to help over the weekend, please see if you can make the time to help out; We have plenty of roles for our members to assist with; Janine is looking after our Volunteer Roster, so please let Nene Know if you can help; Sunday 26th March, with help also needed in the days leading Up to the Show and Shine



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Members SPOT

DATES FOR DIARY

BYO

at Clubhouse this Friday Night 17th Feb from 5.30pm

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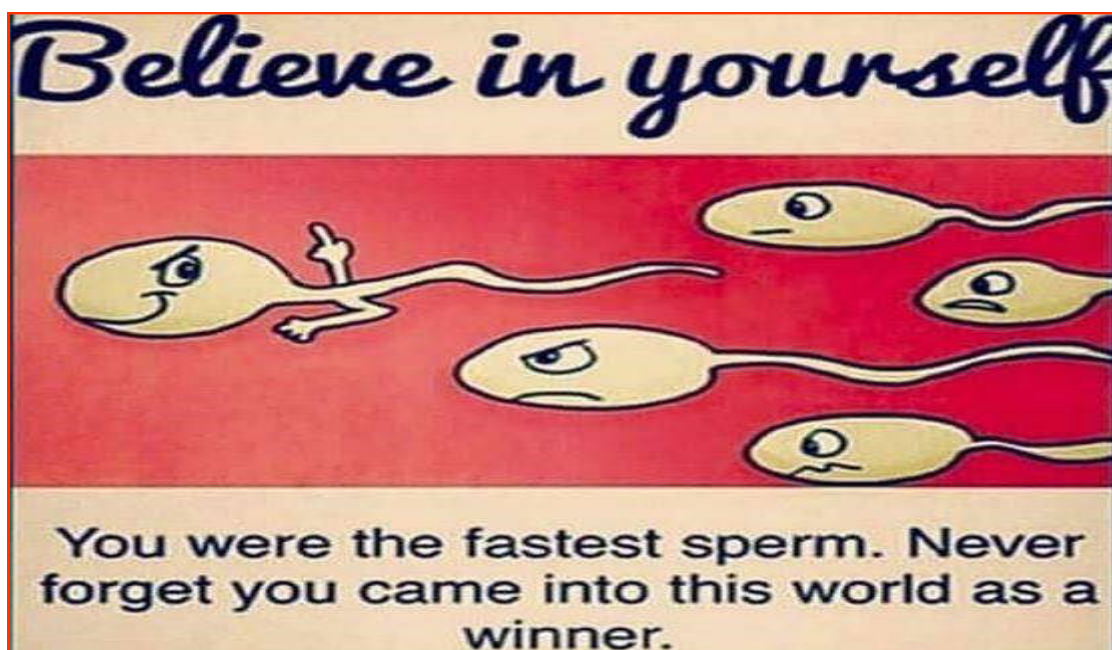
Our next Club Run is Sunday 26th February

***We are off to The Blackwood Hotel for Lunch followed
by a trip to GARDEN of St EARTH***

***Full details and Route Maps will be available on the day
We will gather at Guildford Store @ around 10.30 and
head off for a great day; Full Details via email next
week***

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***BOOKS! We are looking for Donations of Books for a book stall at the Show
and Shine; Just drop em off to the club and we will look after the rest***



Below; A Follow Up article on last weeks feature about the Waltzing Matilda Jet Truck
(Written by Keith Dunstan)

BATMAN'S MELBOURNE



It started with a whale of an idea

THERE HAVE been times when I have thought semi-trailers were approaching the world speed record on the Hume Highway, so I guess a man shouldn't be surprised when it happens out at Calder. Even so the sight of five-tonne trucks in a drag event is a most awesome affair.

Here in Melbourne we have just had a visit from Tyrone Malone with his \$150,000 Kenworth truck Super Boss, and right now it is on a grand Australian tour. It has been matched against an even more expensive Australian truck called Waltzing Matilda powered by a Rolls Royce jet engine and driven by our drag champion, Larry Ormsby.

The confrontation between Mr Malone and Mr Ormsby was a masterpiece of public relations. Super Boss was in the main dining room at Leonda reception centre. Now this truck was flown out from the US in a Boeing 747. It is covered with \$12,000 worth of paint and \$6000 worth of chrome. It has great red, white and blue stripes down the side and everything in sight is chromed. There are hydraulic aerofoils front and back to assist in breaking, similar to those used on aircraft.

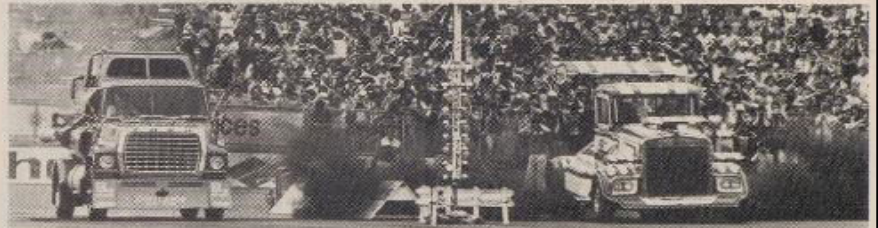
Tyrone Malone is the father of truck dragging in the US, and while we were waiting for the unveiling of Waltzing Matilda there was time for a talk with him. He was dressed in white overalls decorated with US and Australian flags, and he is almost as tasteful as his truck.

Talking at around 300 words a minute his conversation went like this:

"Back around 1966 I had an automobile selling business and I was stony broke, Broke? I owed over \$50,000 and I couldn't pay it back. I was worrying about this and I visited a little aquarium. The owner had a shark and he said, 'See that shark, it's dying. I reckon I'll deep freeze it and put it on display.'

"Deep freeze a shark, nothing. I went home to my wife and said, 'You know what I'm going to do, deep freeze a whale.' I went to my bank manager and asked him, 'How'd you like to finance the deep freezing of a whale.' He told me I was crazy and to get outa there. OK, eventually I managed to get a friend to lend me \$100,000. I got a Kenworth truck, a big trailer freezer unit 35 feet long and after two years of battling, gaining permits and such, I went to the last whaling station in America and got me a deep frozen sperm whale.

"I tell you it took off. All the TV



Waltzing Matilda and Super Boss: the Australian challenger coughed

cameras were there, seven pages in *Sports Illustrated*, Press, Press, Press. I carted that whale around America and 15 million people have seen it.

"Well, towing that whale with my Kenworth gave me an idea. In 1971 I went out to Bonneville Flats and set a world truck speed record of 106.7 mph. That was taken off me, but I got it back with 144.2 mph.

"So now it's catching on. We have drag racing with the big units and that's a sensation, everyone wants to see it. How do I do it? Well, yair, I have a million-dollar set up, seven trucks and a Chev Corvette Smokey Bear.

"I have a great prime mover painted up as beautiful as Super Boss. That's got the lot, two sleeping berths, dressing room, shower, air conditioning, everything.

"We get out on the drag strip and we put Super Boss up against the Chev Smokey Bear. And we kinda build things up a bit with the crowd. WHOSE FUR SUPER BOSSSSSSSS? . . . WHOSE FUR SMOKEY BARRRRRRRR?

"Ah yair, Super Boss always wins. Nothing can beat that thing for acceleration. It's got a thousand horse power, it does the quarter mile in 13 seconds.

"A bad influence? Aw come 'arn. Evil does mad things on a Honda and all the kids want to do the same thing. Kids can't go get themselves a \$150,000 Kenworth. This is safe, and we believe it is tremendous for the truckies.

"They can put their trucks on the strip. Communication with the public has been real bad until now. Now for the first time they're realising truckies have got a job to do, that they're human guys like everybody else. And if the truckies themselves want to put on a turn they can get it out of their system on the strip."

Suddenly in the Leonda dining room was the blast of *Star Wars* music. A young lady in a silver lame pants suit, carrying a laser beam sword, stepped forward. So did Larry Ormsby dressed in

a *Star Wars* helmet and looking like a frightful outer-space villain.

Back went a curtain and lo, there was Waltzing Matilda, iridescent blue, as big as a block of flats, a Ford Louisville powered by a jet taken from an old Canberra bomber. It had a circle of lights flashing on and off all around the jet outlet and, frankly, it almost outchromed Super Boss.

We were told that Terry O'Hare, chairman of the Recar group of companies, had created this thing in six weeks. Ormsby stepped forward and with tremendous flourish threw a gauntlet on the floor. Tyrone Malone accepted it: "You'll only have to cough and you'll be left on the starting line," said he. It was a formidable prophecy.

Out at Calder Speedway on the Sunday there was a crowd of 20,000. I had a test run in Waltzing Matilda. Larry Ormsby dressed up in protective hood like the Ku Klux Klan then put a big helmet over that. He had two dashboards of instruments, one for the Ford engine and one for the jet.

He started the Avon jet engine with a cartridge that looked like a 25-pounder shell and when it got going there was this controlled shriek, better than a Concorde. The crowd all put their hands over their ears and moved back.

However, to shorten this long story, let me explain that the Australian challenger did not beat the world champion. He coughed.

The Avon jet couldn't get going at full power. The temperature was 35C in the shade and according to the boffins they were losing 500 lb of thrust because of the heat.

There was a number of runs and Waltzing Matilda did considerably better later in the day. So Larry Ormsby is convinced he can break 12 seconds. By the time you read this he might even have done it in Sydney.

But where do you go after racing trucks? Perhaps diesel locomotives?

— Keith Dunstan



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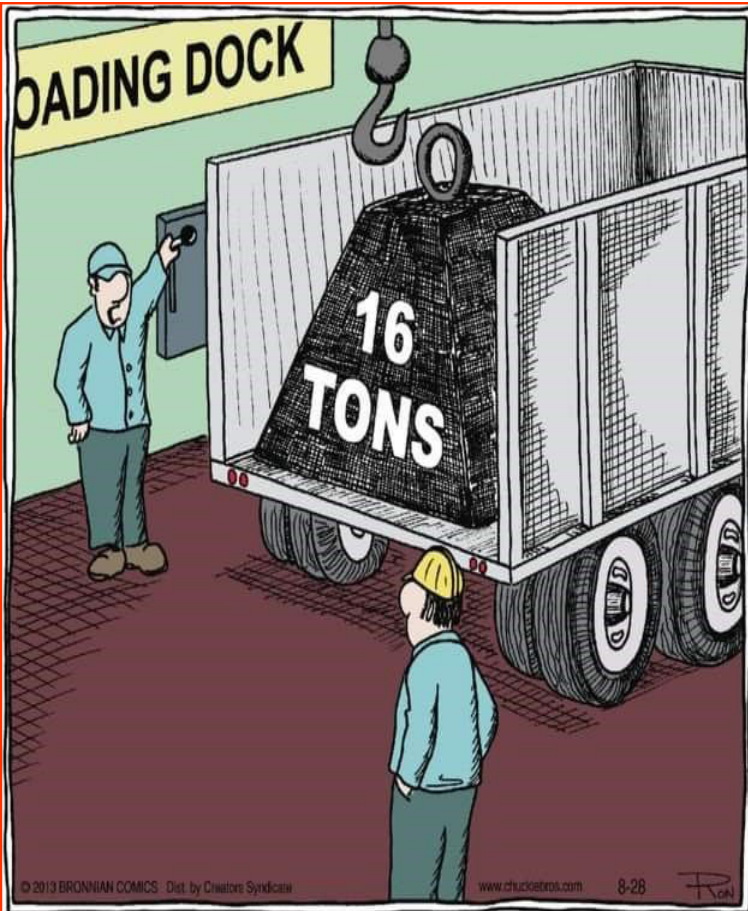


Mount Alexander
Shire Council



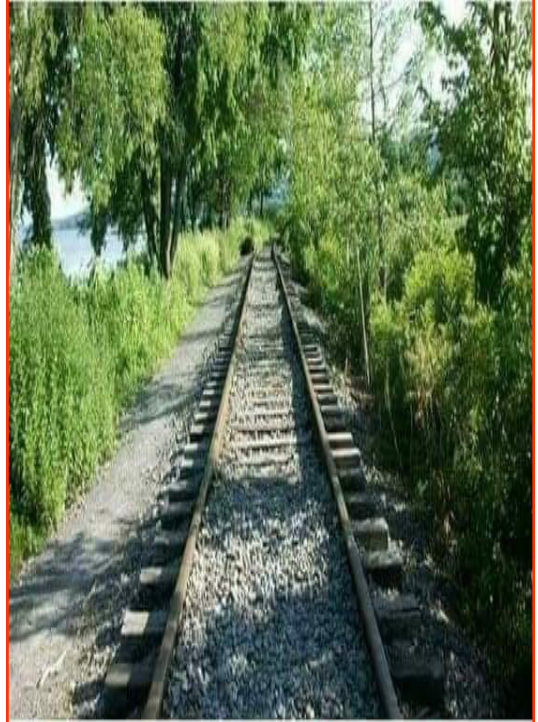
Guildford Grumpies
Car Club Inc



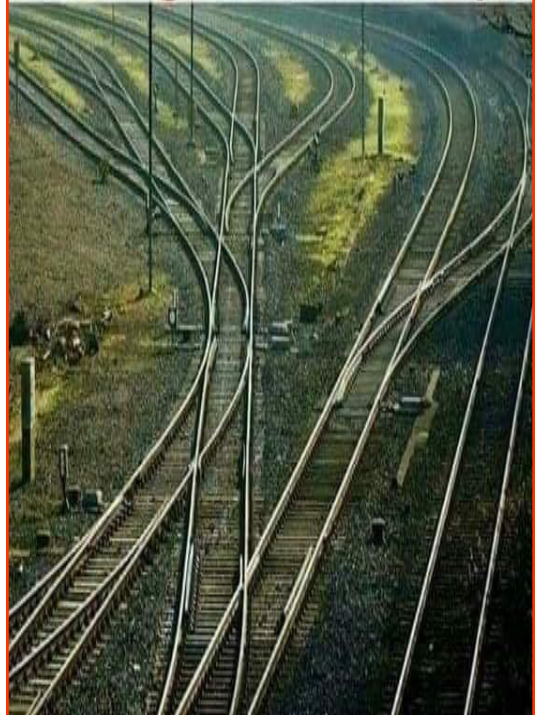


"You know, Ernie, I can't help this feeling that I'm just another day older and deeper in debt."

How boys tell a story



How girls tell a story



**Tonight we're having
Himalayan rabbit stew
for dinner.**

**We found himalayan in
the road.**



*Don't Miss the Club Website for all your grumpy needs
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