

**From:** [Doug Bottrell](#)  
**To:** [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Labour Day Holiday  
**Date:** Wednesday, 29 August 2012 5:07:08 PM

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Dear Sir,

The Barcaldine community celebrate our history with a three day festival. Included in that festival is a day of motor racing in Barcaldine. We receive support of 1000 spectators which is an enormous financial boost to our town of 1500 residents. People travel from all over the state to attend and be a part of the racing and festivities. Altering this date will have a detrimental financial impact on our small community.

In my opinion the holidays should stay where they are (ie. Labour Day in May and Queens Birthday in October), which was changed by the former State Government following a state wide survey.

When the community was asked which holiday should be moved to the later half of the year, the majority of responses was for the Queens Birthday to be moved to October. Which was done. Now the State Government wishes to reverse that and move the historically correct Labour Day holiday. This holiday has been held in May since the Shearer's strike in Barcaldine in 1891. It really is, as I see it, Barcy's holiday. It is part of Barcaldine's history and the reason we hold the Tree of Knowledge festival.

The Queen's birthday is actually 21 April so shouldn't they move that holiday to its proper date ( or any other day of the year as it has been) and leave the Labour Day holiday historically correct ? It seems more political to me than historical. The first Labour Day march occurred in May in 1891. Not in October.

Doug Bottrell  
President  
Barcaldine Motosport Association  
Ph. [REDACTED]