

Kustoms of Australia, Gold Coast Inc
Response to a request for submissions to Motor Recreational
Activities

The Kustoms of Australia, Gold Coast car club is a car oriented social club which has operated for the best part of 20 years.

The members range in age from their 20s to their 80s and have a common interest in restoring, maintaining & driving cars, trucks and motorcycles, and all genres of transport history.

The club maintains its own clubhouse on land leased from the Gold Coast City Council at the Mudgeeraba Historical Centre and is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the premises, requiring the employment of local tradespeople.

The club meets monthly and also is involved most weekends in cruises to local cafes and restaurants as well as participating in car displays at various community organisations, e.g. nursing homes/retirement villages, schools etc.

The club also takes part in displays at Council and State Government events, including the recent Commonwealth Games opening ceremony, the annual Cooly Rocks On festival at Coolangatta and the Viva Surfers Paradise festival held in Surfers Paradise each year.

We also participate in various car shows, many of them fundraisers for local charities.

All of our members who attend these and many other events during the year, do so at their own cost, enjoying the camaraderie and sharing their interest with the people who come to look at the cars, and ask all sorts of questions about our hobby. It always amazes me how much interest is shown by locals and the many tourists visiting from all over the world.

The restoration and maintenance of our vehicles creates work for local motor trades people, panel beaters, spray painters, upholsterers and mechanics. There is also a growing parts supply industry benefiting from our hobby, with manufacturers reproducing obsolete parts that are no longer available from the car companies.

Kustoms of Australia runs a Swap Meet every year involving many of our members but also employing Traffic Controllers. We also pay a substantial fee to the owner of the venue, allowing him to employ catering staff to sell food to the hundreds of visitors who attend.

Kustoms of Australia appreciates the opportunity to provide some input into this enquiry and encourage the committee to contact us if you have any questions, and we are happy to have a delegate attend the enquiry if it would be helpful.

A concern conveyed to me by the members is that there is a need for a review of the Special Interest Vehicle registration scheme (SIV) administered by TMR, with regard to the relaxation of the rules relating to personal use of SIV registered vehicles, as exists in other states such as Victoria with a log book scheme with responsibility for use of the vehicle resting solely with the owner.

Many of the members of Kustoms of Australia own several vehicles and pay considerable registration fees to TMR, in my case 5 vehicles, but I am only one driver. There must be a way of making the pursuit of our hobby simpler and cheaper.

This input is from one club, there are hundreds of similar clubs with thousands of members who share this interest, I hope that we can all benefit from this inquiry.

Regards,

Ian Macdonald

President.

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Kustoms of Australia, Gold Coast.