

Wheels Across the Pacific: Transnational Histories of the Automotive Industry

Proceedings from the 6th Automotive Historians of Australia Conference

Acknowledgement of Country

Dr Simon Lockrey – AHA Vice President (click for video)

AHA acknowledges the people of the various language groups and nations on whose unceded lands we conduct this conference around Australia today. AHA respectfully acknowledges their Ancestors and Elders, past and present. AHA also acknowledges the Traditional Custodians and their Ancestors of the lands and waters across Australia where we conduct our business.



President's Welcome

Dr Norm Darwin – AHA President (click for video)



Conference Welcome

Professor Harriet – Conference Co-Convenor (click for video)

This symposium look at transnational histories of the automotive industry, that is shared histories that extend or go beyond national boundaries. To this end, the symposium is being co-convened by AHA and SAH in the first of what we hope will be ongoing collaborations between Australian and American automotive historians. We recognise that the auto industry has, from the late 19th century been a global enterprise although that aspect of its history is often submerged in a national story. Hence, we have papers that explore ways in which the Australian and American auto industries shared expertise, skills, design and studio practices, engineering, people, business structures and management paradigms, advertising, parts and trade practices such as tariffs.



Program (click titles for videos)

INTRODUCTION

Dr Norm Darwin and A/Prof Simon Lockrey

8:00-8:20am AEST / 3:00-3:20 pm PST / 6:00-6:20pm EST

Paper 1 – BIRTH OF THE AUSTRALIAN AUTO INDUSTRY

Louis Fourie

8:20-8:50am AEST / 3:20-3:50 PM PST / 6:20-6:50 PM EST

Paper 2 – THE MOBILGAS ECONOMY RUN IN THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA

Dave Hermanson

8:50-9:20am AEST / 3:50-4:20 PM PST / 6:50-7:20 PM EST

Paper 3 – THE HOLDEN UNITBODY

Louis Fourie

9:20-9:50am AEST / 4:20-4:50pm PST / 7:20-7:50pm EST

COFFEE BREAK

9:50-10:10am AEST / 4:50-5:10pm PST / 7:50-8:10pm EST

Paper 4 – WOMEN & AUTOMOBILES ACROSS TWO CONTINENTS: AN (UNFORTUNATELY) BRIEF HISTORIOGRAPHY OF WOMEN'S AUTOMOTIVE SCHOLARSHIP IN AUSTRALIA AND AMERICA

Chris Lezotte

10:10-10:40am AEST / 5:10-5:40pm PST / 8:10- 8:40pm EST

Paper 5 - HOW THE MONARO BECAME THE PONTIAC GTO

Dr Norm Darwin PhD

10:40-11:10am AEST / 5:40-6:10pm PST / 8:40-9:10pm EST

Paper 6 – CREATIVE TENSION: THE RE-IGNITION OF THE HOLDEN DESIGN AND GM DESIGN RELATIONSHIP 1990-2020

John Field

11:10-11:40am AEST / 6:10-6:40pm PST / 9:10-9:40pm EST

Paper 7 – A JOURNEY TOWARDS INDUSTRIAL PRESERVATION AND STEM OUTREACH THROUGH EXTENDED REALITY (XR) EXPERIENCES: THE FIRST FORD UTE (1934)

Christian Meyers, Manca Ogrizek, Saif Alatrash Kaja Antlej

11:40-12:10pm AEST / 6:40-7:10pm PST / 9:40-10:10pm EST

LUNCH BREAK

12:10-1:20pm AEST / 7:10-8:20pm PST / 10:10-11:20pm EST

Paper 8 - THE GMH DESIGN STUDIO AT FISHERMAN'S BEND: EXPLORING AN AUSTRALIAN- AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP THROUGH EXHIBITION

Harriet Edquist

1:20-1:50pm AEST / 8:20-8:50pm PST / 11:20-11:50pm EST

Paper 9 - ARTHUR BISHOP – STEERING TO ACHIEVEMENT

Dr Norm Darwin PhD

1:50-2:20pm AEST / 8:50-9:20pm PST / 11:50-12:20am EST

FINAL DISCUSSION AND CLOSE

2:20-2:50pm AEST / 9:20-9:50pm PST /12:20-12:50am EST



Automotive Historian Australia Office Bearers

Founding Patron: The late Ron Tauranac AO

President: Dr Norm Darwin

Vice President: Associate Professor Simon Lockrey

Secretary: Tony Lupton

Treasurer: Daryl Meek

Committee Members: Jenny Fawbert, Nathan Pharoah, Alan Willingham, Emeritus Professor Harriet Edquist

CONTACT

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ABOUT

Following the highly successful Shifting Gear exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria, Automotive Historians Australia was founded in Melbourne in 2015, to promote the understanding and enjoyment of automotive history through scholarly research, discussion and events. As such, the Automotive Historians Australia Inc. vision is:

To promote research, education, archival collection and dissemination of knowledge about the history of the Australian automotive industry, and to involve members, industry and others in this history through publications, events, meetings and conferences.



**AUTOMOTIVE
HISTORIANS
AUSTRALIA INC**

FOUNDING PATRON: Ron Tauranac AO