



The Association of Veteran Car Clubs in Australia (TAVCCA)

<https://tavcca.vccsa.org.au/>

PRESS RELEASE –

TAVCCA Montagu Trophy Recipient 2026



Award Recipient:	<i>Hamish McDonald</i>
TAVCCA Member Club:	<i>Veteran Car Club of South Australia (Chair), Veteran Car club Australia – Victoria (member), Veteran Car Club Australia – Tasmania (member)</i>
Press release date:	<i>Friday 11 September 2026</i>

Details of nominee's significant contributions to the veteran car club movement, either at national or member club level:

South Australian veteran motoring enthusiast Hamish McDonald has been awarded the prestigious Montagu Trophy in recognition of his extensive and longstanding contribution to the preservation, restoration and promotion of veteran motoring in Australia.

The award recognises Hamish's commitment over many years, not only through the restoration and preservation of significant early motor vehicles, but also through his leadership, administration, rally organisation and service to the veteran motoring movement at club, state and national level.

Hamish has continued a strong family interest in veteran motoring and has restored and maintained a number of important early vehicles, including Brush, Ford, Hupmobile, Darracq, De Dion Bouton and

Bayard motor cars.

His restorations have been undertaken to a high standard, with a strong focus on authenticity and the use of correct and original components wherever possible. This has included considerable effort to locate rare parts internationally, including sourcing the correct gearbox for his 1905 Bayard from Germany.

Beyond his own vehicle restoration work, Hamish has made a substantial contribution to the Veteran Car Club of South Australia. A longstanding member of the club, he has served for many years on the committee and previously completed six years as Chairperson.

During that time, he has helped organise numerous local rallies and events, often with the support and involvement of his family. He has also contributed significantly to the administration and modernisation of the club, using his information technology skills to improve records, assist with grant applications, support the club's responsibilities under the conditional registration scheme and contribute to the ongoing development of the club's website and communications.

Hamish's contribution has also extended strongly to national veteran motoring events. He served as Rally Director for the highly successful 2025 National Veteran Rally at Murray Bridge in South Australia, bringing together veteran vehicle enthusiasts from across Australia.

He has also served as Rally Director for two national Brush owners' rallies, held at Goolwa and Quorn, and is currently leading preparations for the 2028 National 1 & 2 Cylinder Rally, which will again be based at Quorn in the Flinders Ranges.

At a national organisational level, Hamish served as Secretary of The Association of Veteran Car Clubs in Australia (TAVCCA) during the particularly challenging COVID period from 2019 to 2022. His work during this time helped support communication and coordination across the veteran motoring movement during a period of considerable disruption.

He has since again taken on the role of TAVCCA Secretary for a second term, while also continuing his involvement with the Veteran Car Club of South Australia. Hamish has recently nominated to again serve as Chairperson of the VCCSA, reflecting his ongoing commitment to the club and his willingness to continue contributing to its future direction.

The Montagu Trophy recognises not only Hamish's passion for veteran vehicles, but also his willingness to contribute his time, skills and leadership for the benefit of the wider veteran motoring community.

His involvement has spanned vehicle restoration, rally organisation, governance, administration, communications and national representation. Collectively, these contributions represent many years of sustained service to the preservation and enjoyment of veteran motoring heritage in Australia.

The award is a fitting recognition of Hamish McDonald's significant contribution to veteran motoring and his continuing commitment to ensuring that Australia's earliest motor vehicles, their history and the community surrounding them are preserved and enjoyed by future generations.

TAVCCA Congratulates Hamish on his contribution to the veteran vehicle movement and his recognition in being awarded the 2026 Montagu Trophy.