



**FREE: PLEASE TAKE ONE**

# The HIGHWAY EVANGELIST

*For the Aussie truckie*

Transport for Christ Australia Inc. - *serving the trucking industry of Australia*

B/26

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Lyons Transport Mittagong T659 Kenworth at the truckies memorial on top of Razorback Mountain where the 1979 Razorback Truckies Blockade was staged on the Hume Highway, 75 kms south of Sydney, NSW. This was the headquarters of several simultaneous blockades on Australian Highways. See story on page 13.



from Wollongong to Darwin, and an incident at Daly Waters NT made him realise how much God looks after him. He was trying to sleep in the bunk, the bunk doors were open, one blew shut and it wouldn't open so he got out to open it and saw he had left his parking lights on. He would have had flat batteries by morning if not for God.

### ***What's your Christian***

## ***A Tall Truckie with a Long History***

Many of you would have heard of "Lofty" Richardson, owner of Cawdor Haulage NSW, I had. I grew up in a small village called Douglas Park where the Hume Freeway crosses the Nepean River where we all used to swim. You could see the top of Razorback Range in the near distance with its communication towers and the old Hume Hwy to Melbourne (number 31) for many decades. This was the scene of the 1979 Truckies Razorback Blockade. Lofty lives at Razorback and his nearest village is Cawdor, where Lofty is a warden at the Uniting Church. I've heard of Lofty for years, and we finally met at a cafe in Picton as he wanted to tell his testimony.

I asked for photos of himself and his trucks. He replied, "I've got plenty of truck photos but if I see a camera I run a mile." I don't think he looks too bad though, tall, and bearded, and looks like he's in a bush band. He recently drove his 30-year-old Kenworth T950 with a flat top loaded with generators

### ***testimony, Lofty?***

"I went to Sunday School at Cawdor and by about 18-20 got into trucks, and like many of us that was everything! I turned away from Jesus and no longer put Him first. About 1985 my marriage failed and my wife left me with our three boys, 5-year-old twins and a 7-year-old. My wife also had two sons, my stepsons. I'd look after our three, put them to bed, and then started at 11 pm hauling coal to the washery at nearby Nattai. I worried that a bushfire might start and no one would save my boys," but God protected them.

Lofty has seven boys now, the five and later another two teenagers being unofficially adopted as they hung around his truck yard. All five of his family boys have driven for Lofty.

For fifteen years he drove the local kids to Sunday School by bus, but he waited in the bus outside as he still wasn't following God terribly well. However, he did tell the kids they couldn't come out until it finished. Originally, he drove them in an AEC 40-seater bus which was full, then a Mazda 20

seat mini-bus, and finally a 4WD. Lofty said kids do a lot of activities on weekends now and unfortunately sport is more important than church.

Lofty gave his life to the Lord at Camden Uniting Church NSW about 40 years ago. "Then a few years later I fell asleep and lost control of my first truck, a D series Ford single drive with single axle tipper trailer coming down Razorback toward Picton and I got out and walked away. I recall I had a vision of me in a coffin as I went down the side of the mountain and I saw the gates of heaven. I stopped in the creek at the bottom, and the motor had kept running all the way down." A minister said I had died and got to heaven, but God decided I wasn't ready and had more work to do on earth. I recommitted to God at the Cawdor Uniting Church again.



*Mack Magnum with Cummins Gen 2 'Signature' motor pulling its trailer off the Tasmanian Bass Strait ferry.*

## **Lofty's Truckin' Life**

He left school at 15 to start a life around trucks with four years as a "grease monkey" and roustabout. Then he worked for a well-known Picton trucking family, the Eagle's, driving tippers and carting coal and quarry products for councils. He started his own truck business in 1964. He carted coal for decades, historically a big industry in this

area, and poultry; both live and processed. The D series was wrecked so he bought a 650 MAN 150hp prime mover, he repaired the tipper and went back to work. Lofty operated fifteen trucks in his heyday, and is still operating six now as an octogenarian, driving one himself.



*The Scania 143 cabovers with 450 HP.*

He's owned an Atkinson, Thames Trader, Macks were two Magnum cabover B-doubles, R-model, Fleetliner and Superliner, Scania 112, 113, 142 and 143, three MAN's with pogo stick gearboxes (you move the gearstick up and down), a Volvo prime mover with Hiab crane, three T401 Kenworths, a cabover Peterbilt with two-cycle Detroit, a cabover International with a Cummins, a White Road Boss with an 8V71 2-cycle GM, and five NL-series Volvos. He



*The Volvo F10 prime mover with Hiab crane.*

did truck racing in a Volvo N12 which was also a work truck. With this history he could open a truck repair shop!



*Mini-minor miniature semi-trailer originally yellow but later painted in Cawdor Haulage red for a novelty exhibit at truck shows.*

The five NL Volvos were on coal tippers and were financed. The coal miners had a few strikes, one was particularly long and truck owners were struggling. The finance man was continually ringing and asking for money which Lofty didn't have. This man had Lofty's office lady in tears at one point as Lofty couldn't even pay the \$40 annual PO Box rental then. Finally Lofty said, "tell me where you want the five trucks, we'll bring them back, you won't have to hotwire or tow them as you usually do." The finance man thought about it and said, "you might as well keep them, pay when you can." Truck repossession was a common event in past years, but the finance firm didn't want them.

I asked Lofty what the best truck brand was in his mind as he has had many? He said, "The ones that keep going as against the ones that don't!" I said seriously though? He replied, "After the threat of truck repossessions I decided to never buy new again, and only to buy what looked like good value second-hand trucks, regardless of make."

## ***Tell us why God is so important to you?***

"I just don't worry so much. He keeps me alive on the road. Helped me raise my boys without a Mum. When I got to Darwin recently, I didn't know where to deliver and I'm too old to use Google Maps. I stopped at a Real Estate Agent and asked where the customer was? It must have been God's plan as the agent pointed, 'Turn down that street and it's down on your left.' Once I broke down in a parking bay near Mildura Vic, and the truck wouldn't start. Next morning I didn't do anything, turned the key, and it just started! Once when driving a bus load of kids I was starting to nod off and an adult said, 'Wake up Lofty,' I awoke and she saved the kids."



*A much younger 'Lofty' in front of his N12 Volvo race truck which is a working truck parked beside a Scania 113 "Gumboot".*

"So, what's your favourite scripture Lofty?" His answer, "Matthew Ch 6: 25-34; "Do not worry." I should have guessed; I wrote about this scripture in edition B/24 of a TFC Aust *Highway Evangelist* once. A good one for truckies who think they are bullet-proof, but Lofty knows it's always God's work, not theirs.

*Blessings, Murray Reedie.*



## Under the Bonnet ...

*answering the questions you always wanted to ask a truckie!*

### **Q. Do your trucks often overheat? - Wes B.**

*A. This is a particularly good question. The short answer is no, unless something is wrong. Australia has exceptionally long hauls through hot arid country, particularly in the outback. Trucks sold in Australia are built for the heat including bigger radiators and cooling capacity. In fact, many car and truck manufacturers worldwide use our country to evaluate their vehicles for hot conditions and cooling. The things that could cause overheating are coolant (water) leaks, broken or slipping fan belts, engine fans that switch on and off for fuel economy not working correctly, blocked radiators either for the air or coolant not passing through properly, faulty water pump, even the engine tune or something simple like a piece of cardboard stuck on the radiator grill whilst moving. You can travel in cooler parts of the day or slow down a little too if you have a heavy load.*

### **Q. How much does it cost to fuel a truck and who pays for the fuel? - Mark B.**

*A. This is a very topical question, due to recent global events. The cost is dependent on two things; size of your fuel tanks and the current price. Truck owners pay for the fuel and must charge their customers for it in their rates. All*

*truck operators would get a fuel discount if they had a fuel account, but it could only be a few cents a litre. The tax office allows us energy and GST credits, and tax deductibility on fuel use also. Many operators charge a sliding fuel levy in their rates to allow for fuel price changes. Prime mover fuel capacity varies from 800 to 2,000 litres or more. A semi-trailer, B-double or roadtrain will use more fuel the heavier the truck is so this is why fuel tank size varies. A 2,000-litre fuel capacity at the recent high price of \$3.25/litre would cost \$6,500 to fill. A truck with 800-litre capacity at the current price of \$1.95/litre (Mid-June 26) would cost \$1,560 to fill. You may have to fill daily or only three times a week. Slowing down speed can save fuel.*

***If you have a question you'd like to ask a truckie, please email it to [jndwheeler@hotmail.com](mailto:jndwheeler@hotmail.com)***



*Transport for Christ Australia in the 1970's ... Grahame Wheeler's R190 "Mobile Chapel" could often be seen out on the roads and at truck shows. The Mobile Chapel also took part in the Razorback Blockade in 1979.*



so frightened that his legs became weak and his knees were knocking.

He summoned the enchanters, astrologers and diviners, the so-called wise men of Babylon, and proclaimed: "Whoever reads this writing and tells me what it means will be clothed in purple, have a gold chain placed around his neck and will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

## How we know our God is real

### Part 2 -The Writing on the Wall

Detailed in Daniel Chapter 5, The Writing on the Wall is a widely known story – often used as a secular saying with no attribution to the Bible – describing yet another supernatural occurrence wrought by the Lord.

King Belshazzar, Darius's predecessor, held a great banquet and gave orders to bring the gold and silver goblets that his father, Nebuchadnezzar, had plundered from the Lord's house (Solomon's Temple) when he ransacked and set fire to it in 586BC.

At the banquet the king, his nobles and family members drank wine from the goblets and as they drank, they praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood and stone.

Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall. The king watched the hand as it wrote and his face turned pale and he was

When not one of these men could read the writing or explain its meaning, the king became even more terrified. Hearing the commotion, the queen came into the banquet hall and said: "There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners. Call for Daniel and he will tell you what the writing means."

So, Daniel was summoned and the king said: "If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

Then Daniel answered: "You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means.

"Your Majesty, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendour... but when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed

from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. He was driven away from people and given the mind of an animal; he lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like the ox; and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and sets over them anyone he wishes.

"But you, Belshazzar, his son, have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this. Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you and...you drank wine from them. You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. But you did not honour the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways. Therefore, he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

"This is the inscription that was written:  
*Mene, Mene, Tekel, Parsin*

*"Mene:* God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

*Tekel:* You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

*Peres (the singular of Parsin):* Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom.

That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain, and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of 62.

After reading through Daniel Chapter 5, it's not difficult to see the similarities between today's world and what was going on all

those years ago. Modern world leaders are behaving in a similar fashion to the way Belshazzar did. And the same Most High God who brought his reign to a sudden end is still watching over the rulers in this modern age.

The big difference is that in the intervening years God's son Jesus Christ came to earth and lived and breathed as a human being before being crucified to redeem you and me from our sins. And God has promised that one day Jesus will return to wrap it all up and take those who believe and are willing to put their trust in him to live with him in heaven for eternity.

With all that is currently going on in the world, there's never been a better time to make peace with God and put our faith in Jesus Christ, the one and only saviour who has the power to take away the sins of the entire world.

*Blessings, Paul Matthei*

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*Three men went out in a convertible car. Coming back to the car the driver said, "I've locked the keys in, so I need a coathanger to break in."*

*Another one said, "No. We can't do that. It will look like we're stealing."*

*The third quickly added, "We'd better do something quick because it's starting to rain and the roof is down."*

*— submitted by Neil Hawke*

*There are two women, one is holding a pair of holey socks. She turns to the other and asks, "Do you know how to darn socks?"*

*The woman takes the socks, looks at them, says "darn socks" and throws them in the bin.*

*— submitted by Paul Matthei*

# BLACK FRIDAY!

The first known use of the term “Black Friday” referred to the crash of the US gold market in 1869. Two Wall Street financiers, Jay Gould and Jim Fisk, had conspired to artificially inflate the gold price ... however, their devious plan eventually collapsed – taking the stock market along with it and sending many innocent people into bankruptcy.



*Nearly two million hectares of Victoria burned on Black Friday 1939. Source State Library of Vict. (Wikimedia Commons)*

Decades later, in 1939, “Black Friday” referred to “the worst disaster in Australia’s history” as *The Age* newspaper described it. The Black Friday bushfires of 1939 saw approximately two million hectares of Victoria consumed by flames. But even before the fires, the extreme heat had killed many: “just as in the 2009 fires – perhaps the closest analogue to 1939 – the death toll in the accompanying heatwave easily exceeded that of those who burned to death.”

In the 1950s, “Black Friday” was the term used by the police in Philadelphia, USA, to describe the crowds, traffic, and retail chaos that followed the surge in population the day after Thanksgiving, when tourists flocked to the city to watch the annual Army-Navy

football game. Shoplifters took advantage of the chaos, and police worked extra-long shifts in an effort to deal with the crowds and law-enforcement issues.

Later, retailers worked to expunge “Black Friday” of its negative connotations, replacing the origins of the term with a story that had a more positive spin. “Black Friday” became a pre-Christmas shopping event, where discounted goods attracted crowds of shoppers. The surge in sales was said to move retailers who had been operating at a loss – in “the red” – back into “the black” before the end of the year. Today, “Black Friday” is a well-known retail event, inviting savvy shoppers to snap up bargains before Christmas!



*Black Friday Sales. Photo by Gridprop (Wikimedia Commons)*

In the Christian tradition, there is a Friday that could very well be named “Black Friday”. This is the Friday that Jesus was put to death on a cross. The cross was a particularly brutal and humiliating form of public execution in the Roman empire that was generally reserved for slaves, criminals, and non-citizens. However, this Friday is known in the Christian calendar as “Good Friday”. How can this be?

As you know, Jesus is God, who came to earth in human form for a time. He came to “seek

and save the lost" (Luke 19:10). Part of this mission is accomplished on "Good Friday", the day that Jesus took upon himself all the very worst that humans could throw at him. It looked like evil had won – the worst had happened, and Jesus was dead. However, Jesus claimed victory over death: three days later, Jesus rose from the dead!

The day we call "Easter Sunday" is a day of remembrance, when we remember Jesus' victory over death. "Easter Sunday" is a day of celebration, but there would be no celebration, no victory, without the death three days before. Jesus took the very worst of "Black Friday" and turned it into "Good Friday". Every Easter, Christians celebrate that: "death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" (1 Cor 15:55).

Do you feel like life is throwing the very worst at you right now? Jesus has been there too; you are not alone. Jesus invites you to journey through life with Him. He says, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (Matt 11:28). Those who believe in Jesus (Christians) are not guaranteed a life free of troubles, but we are assured that we are never alone, and we have the hope that we too will overcome our "black" days: we too can say, "O death, where is your sting?"

— E. Devlin

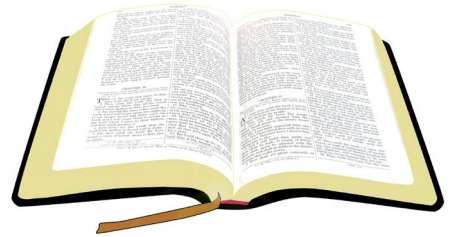
References: [www.history.com/articles/black-friday-thanksgiving-origins-history](http://www.history.com/articles/black-friday-thanksgiving-origins-history)  
[www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/lessons-learnt-and-perhaps-forgotten-from-australia-s-worst-fires-20190108-p50qol](http://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/lessons-learnt-and-perhaps-forgotten-from-australia-s-worst-fires-20190108-p50qol)

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## Make peace with God today!

Come to Jesus Christ today and trust in Him alone for your salvation.

You can pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that you died on the cross and shed Your blood to pay the penalty for my sins. Please forgive me and come into my life as my Saviour and Lord."



- I now put my trust in Jesus Christ as my Saviour, or
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# Faith Versus Works

## Part 2 -Justification by Works

Last edition I spoke of how God gives us justification by faith, through his grace, not through any of our works, so we could not boast (Ephesians 2:8-9). I said we receive salvation through his grace, but as we mature as Christians, we increasingly display our faith through our works or deeds (actions). The reason our faith is more important than our works to earn our salvation is that no works we could do could ever improve on the gracious free gift that was God's works giving us our salvation. Two New Testament scriptures on the concept of "faith versus works" are below.

### **James 2:14-24 NIV**

*14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?*

*17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

*18 But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. 19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder. 20 You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? 21 Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. 23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. 24 You see that a person is*

*considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.*

Works can be many things; giving someone shelter, a meal, money, a lift in the rain, lending a spanner, help lifting furniture, giving your time or an ear, or praying for the infirmed. Jesus would also include tithing (donating) money or service to your church, spreading the Gospel, or communicating your faith. i.e. Putting God first.



*Community food day at the Liverpool South Anglican Church, NSW. Community members can purchase a bag of donated groceries for a low fee, and some items like bread are free.*

James was Jesus' half-brother, both born to Mary, but Jesus was an immaculate conception from God, Joseph was James' biological father. Scholars suggest the book of James could almost be a wisdom book like Proverbs as James instructs well on correct Christian behaviour. James wrote to Israelites who were scattered in surrounding countries as many had left Israel in fear after the stoning of Stephen, a helper in the Jewish church (Acts 8:1). James was passionate about faith with deeds and writes that faith is worthless without evidence of a changed life in your actions.

James 2:24 above has the word alone at the end of it. So, I don't think it is saying that works takes precedence over faith. James is not at odds with the New Testament teachings generally and with Paul who says,

"Faith without works is not faith at all, but its opposite." (Galatians 5:6, 1 Timothy 5:8).

So, when Abraham obeyed God by preparing to sacrifice Isaac, he showed faith in God by being willing to do the works that God required. We read that God didn't take Isaac's life after all (Genesis 22:12), because of Abraham's good works including when God averted this sacrifice where He spared Isaac. It was a test and helped make Abraham righteous (James 2:21-23).

Stephen a friend of mine says the scripture of James 2:14-24 is like 'The Parable of the Sheep and Goats' in the Gospel of Matthew.

**Matthew 25:31-46 NIV**  
**— The Sheep and the Goats Parable**

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these

*brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'*

41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

45 "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.



Anglicare driver and food van, with volunteers, at Liverpool South Anglican Church, NSW.

My interpretation of this scripture is that Jesus wants believers to give Christian witness by caring for others. So, if they cared for these brothers and sisters, they are caring for Jesus Christ himself, as we are all part of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). Therefore, their actions would show their faith was genuine. They showed fellowship to all just like Jesus set the example when He was on earth 2,000 years ago. This made them sheep, ("The Lord is my shepherd," Psalm 23:1), they were judged righteous and were accepted into God's kingdom (Matthew

25:34-40). By contrast if people don't help their fellow humans by their works, they are the goats and are judged unrighteous and sent to damnation (Matthew 25:41-46).

I feel this parable is saying that rather than works being more important than faith, it is saying your works, or lack of them, reflects your faith in Jesus.

*God Bless, Murray Reddie.*

*Author's note: If you missed the first article it is available to read and/or download on the TFC Aust website: [transportforchristaustralia.com](http://transportforchristaustralia.com)*

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## **Rudolph Diesel**

In 2024 a new model diesel engine in a truck has been known to be so much more fuel efficient than the previous model that the savings are enough to pay the lease payments.

In the German Technical Museum in Munich is the actual single cylinder, 4 stroke 25 horse power compression ignition engine designed and build by Rudolph Diesel in 1893.

In the 1930's the Hindenburg airship had 4 Daimler Benz diesel engines of 890 kw each, capable of running in reverse.

Peugeot got in on the act at Le Mans with its 905-diesel powered race car that won 19 out of its 28 starts – a 5.5 litre V12.

Scott Birdsall in his Cummins powered F100 (1949 model) ran 11 minutes and 24 seconds up Pikes Peak.

Who knows ultimately how much energy can be extracted from one drop of diesel fuel?

But, more importantly, how much can be accomplished by a person working in partnership with our Almighty God?

"Only one life, t'will soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last."

— Rod Leigo

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## **Pikes Peak or Bust!**

*by Donald Hollinger*

"Pikes Peak or Bust" the sign read on the back of a 1967 Kenworth from California at the 28th Annual American Truck Historical Society's National Convention and Antique Truck Show in beautiful Colorado Springs, Colorado.



*Trucks descending Pikes Peak. There is no place to pull off the road, so the picture was taken through a windscreen.*

With over 600 antique trucks lined up with the beautiful snow-capped mountains in the background I had a field day with my camera. Although the show ended on Saturday evening another event took place on Sunday as 43 antique trucks made the nineteen miles (30.5 kms) trip up Pikes Peak. A lot of people said they were crazy for attempting such a task with old trucks, but only trucks in good condition were allowed. All but two or three made it all the way to the top; and even the few that did not reach the peak had only minor problems and were able to drive back down.

I believe the oldest trucks to make it to the summit were a 1936 Dodge and a 1936 Chevy. One requirement was that they had to have a short wheelbase because of the

hairpin bends near the summit; some had to stop and back up to get around those sharp turns.

This was my first experience of Pikes Peak, and I was awed at the beauty of the lakes, trees and all the snow. When we reached the top, it was cold and windy. The view was breathtaking.



*We made it to the summit of Pikes Peak!*

Unlike most truck shows, at this one there was no competition, no drivers scurrying around trying to get every last bit of dirt off their trucks to win a trophy to set on a shelf at home to collect dust. This makes for a more laid back atmosphere. I heard one of the officials say, "We feel all those who bring a truck are winners".

*Reprinted with permission from "Highway News and Good News" USA, Nov 2007*

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## YOUNG BLOKE LOVES HIS DIESEL MECHANICS!

Noah is a truck tragic. So, his parents asked TFC volunteer Murray Reedie from their church could he take Noah to Belgenny Farm near Camden NSW for his 2025 year-10 formal in a truck as a surprise. Murray asked Lyons Transport of Mittagong could they supply a good-looking truck and they produced their 2024 T659 Kenworth prime mover which usually moves general freight

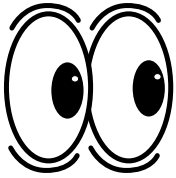


in a B-double. The truck is nick-named "Lethal Weapon," as its regular driver is Lee. Ricky Lyons who with his wife now owns the company that his parents started, detailed the truck and Murray took the truck to Noah's house nearby for the pick-up.

Noah was gobsmacked and after photos both set off on the 45 km trip. Belgenny Farm was John and Elizabeth Macarthur's Farm from 1805 and is the oldest collection of colonial historic farm buildings in Australia. John Macarthur helped develop the Merino sheep breed in Australia. Older Australians will remember the head of John Macarthur and a picture of a Merino on the green Australian two-dollar note before the two-dollar coin was introduced in 1988. Onlookers were surprised at the formal, not just Noah. There were also Lamborghinis, Porsches, vintage cars and motorbikes, Ozzie and US V8 muscle cars, in fact no end of grown up's toys dropping off teenagers at the formal. However, I told Noah the T659 was probably more expensive than these (and I thought better looking)! Thanks, Lyons Tspt for the truck, and making a young man's night.

Noah is in year 11 and would love to start an apprenticeship as a diesel mechanic on trucks or heavy machinery next year. He is currently doing a Cert 2 mechanical course and has a part time job at a mower shop.

*"Keep on truckin' Noah!"*



## Good Spotting!

*A sequel to Jones & Sons  
Article in the previous  
edition ...*

Operating from their depot at Parkes in the central west of NSW (near Forbes) Shannon had a contract to transport silicon sand from Silkwood – 230 km north of Townsville Queensland – to near Elliot in the Northern Territory, a return journey of five days. Four trucks did the job; two pulling quad trailers, the others triples with a payload of 98 tonnes.

Prior to this they had purchased the 1000th build Robuk bulk trailer with that printed on the sides together with the Australian flag.

A truckie and his son had read the last Highway Evangelist paper and were holidaying with other family members in the Northern Territory when the son spotted the trailer with the 1000th sign plus the Australian flag parked in the truck parking bay at Elliot. They stopped and went across and introduced themselves to Shannon.

This shows how effective advertising can be!!

— Neil Hawke



*Loading wheat from a mother bin into the  
1,000th built Robuk trailer.*

## Golden Oldies

*... continued from the back page:*

However, Bob didn't take delivery of the truck and it ended up being sold to an owner-driver by the Kenworth dealership at Footscray (Victoria) in March '87.

It was duly put to work hauling fridge vans for TNT for the first five or six years before it was sold to another owner-driver who was a sub-contractor for Comet.

As it surely is today, the W-Model was a real head-turner when it was new and was optioned to the nines with things like carpet on the floor of the cab, gold painted dash and matching 'Buff' trim in the 'Hi-Rise' bunk. The flashy interior, of course, matched perfectly with the striking gold and earthy hues of the exterior, set off beautifully by the twin chrome stacks.

The original engine was a Cummins Big Cam 400 matched with a 13-speed RoadRanger driving through 3.7 diffs on six-rod suspension, endowing it with a 90-tonne roadtrain rating.

In the early '90s the previous owner replaced the original engine and transmission with a Cummins N14 Celect Plus and 18-speed RoadRanger.

In 2024 Tony committed to a full ground-up restoration which was undertaken by Kuchels in Nuriootpa, South Australia. They sourced the original paint codes from Kenworth, with the resplendent colour scheme perfectly mimicking that with which it had left the factory.

Tony enjoys taking the truck to shows all over the country and, not surprisingly, he says the interest the truck generates is immensely rewarding for him.

— Paul Matthei



church; we don't have any Bibles, but this morning I prayed for a sign – and now here you are!"

The two teenagers and this young family were two separate groups, but God brought them together. God knew the desire of the teenagers and He knew the need of the young family. He worked behind the scenes to bring them together.

# TAILGATE

So often much of life seems daunting and uncertain, as it was for James and Angus approaching Trafalgar Square.

## Behind the Scenes

James and Angus were two teenagers who lived in London. They decided to get some Bibles and to go onto the streets to offer a copy to people who passed by.

However, when they got to Trafalgar Square and saw the crowds of people, they wondered what they had got themselves into.



Finally, they said: "Okay, we've got to do it."

After a few minutes a young family came up to them. "We have just become Christians," the Mum said. "We have never been to

May we never forget that God knows all about us. God knows those who are His through salvation in His Son, the Lord Jesus. God knows what we need, and He is all-powerful and He is at work behind the scenes.

— submitted by Neil Hawke.

*The boss of a stock carting mob in Dubbo was handing out jobs and one driver was instructed to proceed to back of Condobolin to pick up a load of cows on a Sunday afternoon for Monday's cattle sale. Then he said, "By the way, don't tip it over."*

*Apparently the last two loads for the customer were laid over by another driver.*

*When the new driver asked the boss where and when he said the first load didn't go far and the next load went 11ks further.*

*One wag who was always trying to make him laugh without success piped up, "Well, at least he's getting better." That worked.*

— submitted by Rod Leigo



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*Send a text or leave a message.*

The opinions expressed in the Highway Evangelist are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team or Transport for Christ Australia Inc.



## Golden Oldies

*Tony 'Wheels' Whelan is the exceptionally proud owner of this painstakingly restored 1986 W-Model Kenworth that he acquired in 2012.*

*The truck was ordered by well-known Busselton (WA) operator the late Bob Guthrie and built with pride at Paccar's Bayswater (Melbourne) factory, completed in October '86.*

*Continued on page 14*

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