



Environmental protection

THE AUTO INDUSTRY IS DOING ITS BIT



Geoff Gwilym VACC CEO

Looking after this planet is not optional. We only get one and if we get it wrong, we get it wrong for the next generation. And that's unforgivable.

The automotive industry is doing a lot behind the scenes to help.

Two programs that VACC members are currently involved with include Tyre Stewardship Australia and Green Stamp. Both are designed to improve the way businesses conduct themselves when it comes to environmental responsibility.

According to Tyre Stewardship Australia, 40 million tyres are disposed of in Australia every year and end up in landfill. That's a huge problem. The good news is that tyres can be recycled and used in lots of worthy applications. Some tyres are repurposed in the road-making process. Some end up in children's playgrounds as cushioning ground cover. These are examples of simple, yet clever uses for a product that all too often ends up in the ground.

The Green Stamp accreditation program helps and rewards businesses implementing environmental sustainability initiatives in day-to-day operations.

The program aims to put the focus on automotive businesses that make environmental considerations a priority. With Green Stamp accreditation you can trust that participating businesses go above and beyond their legislative environmental requirements.

So, if you care about the environment, ask your local automotive business what they are doing to protect it. Are they disposing of tyres and fluids ethically? Do they recycle consumables? Ask them if they are Green Stamp accredited. If they answer 'no' to any of these questions, you can always go elsewhere.

Prepared by the Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce in the interest of better motoring.

Share your thoughts
ceo@vacc.com.au

SEEKING CLARITY



[ROADSIDE ASSIST]

IAIN CURRY GETS ANSWERS

WRITE TO MOTORING AT
CARS@NEWS.COM.AU OR
PO BOX 2808, GPO SYDNEY, 2001

What's your opinion on a used Mitsubishi Triton ute, possibly 2015/16? Reliable? I've heard mixed reviews.

John Hildred, email

It's a minefield buying a used ute; many have had a tough life, so search for one with some of Mitsubishi's five-year warranty remaining. The Triton has had instances of blocked engine gas recirculation (EGR) valves, poor fuel economy, cheap interior bits, nasty vibrations, manuals jumping out of gear and complaints about engine performance. There's a Facebook group called Mitsubishi Triton Owners Group Australia with 16,500 members. Join up and get first-hand reports from thousands of owners.

CONTINENTAL SHIFT

After 40 years driving Ford Falcons, it's time to update my 2010 Falcon G6E. I'm happy to spend up to \$50,000. Should I try a Toyota Camry or Kia Stinger? It was a sad day for Australia to lose Falcons and Commodores.

Frank Deane, email

Your affection for True Blue large Aussie sedans is clear. While the Toyota Camry's a polished all-rounder, it doesn't have much soul. The Kia Stinger has soul in spades. A 330S has the 272kW/510Nm 3.3-litre V6 twin-turbo, rear-drive and is on the road for \$53,000. A good haggle should get you to your \$50k budget. For me, it's the closest spiritual



successor to the dearly-departed Falcons and Commodores.

KICK IN THE RS

I enjoy Iain Curry and Jules Lucht's "One Car, Two Critics" reviews, and last week's Honda Civic RS was no exception. But as archivist of the Honda Car Club of Victoria, I must point out the "RS" badge was first introduced on the Civic in 1974 and stood for "Road Sailing". The new RS badge is a heritage nod to the enduring and endearing Civic nameplate.

David Prince, email

Fair call. I suggested Honda was hijacking proper sports cars' RS badges for its not very sporty Civic. Porsche's and Audi's version means RennSport (Racing Sport), Ford's is Rallye Sport and Renault's R.S. is Renault Sport. I now prefer Honda's Road Sailing. Wonderfully, joyously Japanese.

NO SALE

Pleased to see you outed MG as being made in China. I'm sure many people believe they're still from England. This is badge engineering in its lowest form. I'm sure nobody in the seafood, barley, wine, beef, universities and iron ore industries would buy an MG if they knew where they're made.

James Taylor, email

Your quite favourable review of the MG HS disappointed me in that no mention was made that it is the product of a country that seems hell bent on destroying the employment of potential purchasers, as do Haval, LDV, Great Wall and Volvo. This is not racial prejudice, purely political prejudice, and readers should consider purchasing a vehicle from a friendlier country.

Terry O'Meara, email

China's human rights record is disturbing, and choosing not to buy a car manufactured there for that reason is a valid, personal one. But we must face some truths. Car companies including Toyota, Volkswagen, Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Ford, Honda and more build cars in China, and I'd guess practically every modern car uses some component that's made there.

GREAT CATCH

I have a 2017 Isuzu D-Max and have been told



LOOKING FOR LUXE

I'm seeking an SUV for around \$50,000. I'd like mid- to top-level, good fuel economy, reasonable service costs and would love leather seats. I'm looking at a Kia Sportage or Hyundai Tucson. What's your pick and what others should I consider?

Cayce Lewis, email

A Tucson Elite with 1.6-litre turbo petrol engine and AWD has leather, quality features, returns a decent 7.7L/100km and is drive-away for \$45,000. But an all-new model's due next year so it'd be worth waiting. A leather-clad Sportage SX+ petrol is good value at \$39,990 (only go diesel if you need AWD), but definitely look at a \$47,000 drive-away Toyota RAV4 Cruiser Hybrid. A long waiting list, but you get leather, 4.7L/100km economy and services are only \$215 each for the first five years. Left field? The \$50,000 (you can haggle) Citroen C5 Aircross Shine SUV is striking, plush leathered, one of the comfiest cars I've ever driven, and has five years free servicing.

by friends I should install a catch can. Do modern diesel motors need one?

Kevin Bowman, email

I have a 2014 Toyota HiLux that is used in tough 4WD conditions. I've heard lots of talk about using an oil catch can to cut down on the build-up of residue in the inlet manifold. Your thoughts?

Peter Fisher, email

I'm regularly asked about oil catch cans for diesel utes. An industry source with expertise in the field told me he would fit an aftermarket catch can, or oil separator kit, to a new diesel engine. They trap oil vapours that would otherwise clog up your intake, reducing efficiency and life. There's an outside chance one could void a manufacturer's warranty. Use a reputable company that guarantees its work, and drain your catch can regularly.

PLEASURE CRUZE

Re. your warnings about the Holden Cruze's reliability, I bought an SRI in 2013 and it hasn't had one hiccup in 122,000km. A website says all SRI's were 1.6-litre turbos, but mine's badged 1.4-litre. Confusing. Anything you advise I keep an eye on? I've been told the timing chain could be a problem?

Keith Jolley, email

In 2013 the Cruze SRI's engine changed from a 103kW 1.4-litre turbo to a 132kW 1.6-litre turbo. Yours must have been just before the upgrade. Great news yours has been trouble-free — many haven't. If you have an auto gearbox these were prone to failure; water pumps leaked; listen out for whistling noises from the engine due to a vacuum leak, while the 1.4-litre's camshaft cover needed redesign due to regular failures. As you've done more than 120,000km, I'd have a specialist check your timing chain, especially if there's a rattle on start-up and definitely if your engine warning light comes on.

buy search sell
.com.au

Call or place an ad online
13 11 13 or buysearchsell.com.au

Motoring

Cars Wanted

OLD & DAMAGED
Cars min \$250 Drive in
Complete IMLACHS
Springvale LMCT1229
☎ 1300 652 070

Caravans & Motor Homes

CARAVANS WANTED
Any condition. Anywhere
0417 373 338

buy search sell
.com.au

Call 13 11 13

buy
search
sell
.com.au

What a find!
Find what you're looking
for at Buy Search Sell.



buy search sell
.com.au