

HISTORY OF CLUB PLATE SCHEMES

INCLUDING ORIGIN OF NUMBER PLATES & GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

October 1909	Enactment of the “ Motor Traffic Act, 1909 ” Part II 8 (k) of the Act states “To provide that motor vehicles shall have separate distinguishing numbers, regulate the form of such numbers, the manner of placing them upon such vehicles, and the issue and return of such numbers”.
March 1932	The Ministry of Transport Act, 1932 (Act No.3, 1932) The Department of Transport was formed.
November 1932	The Department of Main Roads (DMR) and the Department of Road Transport and Tramways were formed.
June 1952	The Department of Road Transport and Tramways was further split into the Department of Transport and Highways, soon renamed the Department of Motor Transport (DMT)
June 1959	Club Plates “ Permit to Move ” was first issued and only available to members of the Veteran Car Club of NSW.
February 1969	The cut off year for Club Plates is raised to 1939. Initial moves are made to the Minister of Transport regarding Club Plates for all Clubs.
January 1970	A meeting was held with Mr. Milton Morris, Minister for Transport re Club Plates. The proposed issue date is February 1970 (Delayed till January 1984).
July 1971	The DMT proposes a “ Concessional Registration Scheme ” instead of Permits to Move.
November 1983	The Minister for Transport Peter Cox advises that after a review of year model restrictions, applying to the veteran and vintage annual permit scheme, cars 30 years or older at 1st of January each year and owned by members of a recognised Club will be eligible for inclusion in the Club Plate Scheme.
January 1984	With the introduction of the Club Plate Scheme, all recognised Clubs will be eligible, but the Scheme will still be operated under Permits to Move. Each Car Club was allocated a different colour for their plates which also included a Name Bar embossed with the Club’s name to be attached above the front number plate.
February 1985	With Queensland now on board, NSW Club Plates are recognised nationally.
January 1989	The Department of Main Roads (DMR), Department of Motor Transport (DMT), and the Traffic Authority were amalgamated to form the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA).

May 2000	A “ NEW ” Club Plate Scheme is proposed to operate from 1 January 2001. A move away from the Permits to Move to a form of Conditional Registration. The RTA has agreed to a 12-month parallel system for the new registrations. Vehicles will remain exempt from Stamp Duty.
March 2002	The RTA Conditional Registration Scheme proposed to operate from 1 January 2001 is now to commence on 20 May 2002. It will run concurrently with the existing scheme for 12 months to facilitate a smooth changeover.
May 2002	Commencement of the Historic Conditional Registration Scheme (HCRS) with the issue of a dedicated “ NSW Historic Vehicle ” number plates referred to as “ H ” plates.
November 2011	Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) were formed by the amalgamation of the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) and NSW Maritime.
June 2013	The “ Road Transport Act 2013 No.18 ” is now the current Act with respect to Number Plates.
January 2017	Commencement of the Classic Vehicle Scheme (CVS) with the issue of a dedicated “ NSW – Conditional ” number plates referred to as “ D ” plates. With the introduction of CVS, a trial of a “ 60 Day Log Book ” was included. Also, with the introduction of CVS the name and reference to the Historic Conditional Registration Scheme (HCRS) was renamed to the Historic Vehicle Scheme (HVS).
October 2019	Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, Paul Toole, announced that following a trial of a “ 60 Day Log Book ” the renamed “ Historic and Classic Log Book ” has now been made permanent.
December 2019	Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and Transport for NSW (TfNSW) joined together to create one integrated TfNSW.
November 2020	TfNSW issued Guidelines “ Historic Vehicle Scheme (HVS) Period Options, Accessories & Safety Items ” which may aid motoring clubs in determining the eligibility of vehicles for inclusion in the Historic Vehicle Scheme.
December 2020	The “ Historic and Classic LogBook ” has now been issued in the form of a numbered booklet instead of the original single sheet of paper.
July 2024	New number plates are available for vehicles in the Classic Vehicle Scheme (CVS). The new number plate replaces the Conditional number plate traditionally issued to vehicles in the scheme. It will be automatically issued to new CVS registrations and available to be purchased for a one-off fee for existing vehicles in the scheme at the time of registration renewal. The new number plate size and design better fits classic vehicles including the wording “ NSW Classic Vehicle ”.