

COLLECTORS

Leon Tattis,
Technical Case Officer,
Superannuation
Washing machines





The revolutionary household washing machine has long been an object of fascination for Leon Tattis. Now with 28 in his collection, Leon explains the ins and outs of the laundry contraption's appeal.

Leon's interest in washing machines began years ago. 'As a child, I was fascinated by the way washing machines worked mechanically and I always helped mum with the washing,' Leon said. 'As I got older, I used to collect lots of brochures but would keep the fascination a secret.'

While doing an internet search three years ago, Leon discovered a website dedicated to the automatic washing machine and realised there were hundreds of

people across the world with the same fascination.

'There are eight of us in Australia who collect washing machines. I started collecting in 2005, focusing on machines from the 1960s and 1970s, as the different styling elements are intriguing.'

Most of Leon's machines were found in good working condition but some he had to work on to make them operable.



‘I’ve met some wonderful people in my search for machines and they’ve all had praise because I intend to treasure these machines and show what Australia used to manufacture in days gone by.’

‘I’m still looking for about four machines from the brands Simpson, Wilkins Servis and Turner, so anyone is welcome to contact me if they have anything of interest.’

Now with 28 machines in his collection, some of which date back 50 years, Leon wants to one day open a private ‘working museum’ of functioning washing machines. //