Celebrating an icon: Shepparton-born industrial designer and university lecturer Ian Wong is curating a Melbourne Museum exhibition to celebrate the work of Holden design legend Phillip Zmood, whose influence can be seen in many cars of today.

Muscle: The Torana.

Sketches: The Monaro HT GTS.

**Retrospective design**

**FORMER SHEPPARTON MAN HELPS TO CELEBRATE A LEGEND’S AMAZING CAREER**

Early designs of classic Aussie muscle cars are on show in a free exhibition organised by a Shepparton-born industrial designer.

RMIT industrial design lecturer Ian Wong curated the Melbourne Museum exhibition to celebrate the work of Phillip Zmood — designer of iconic Holden muscle cars the Monaro, Torana and Commodore.

Mr Wong said the exhibition Zmood: Designing Holdens celebrated the career of the RMIT industrial-design graduate who became GM Holden’s first Australian Head of Design.

The retrospective, which includes original studio drawings of the GTRX and the Torana, also features Mr Zmood’s childhood sketches and drawings, studio photographs and brochures.

Mr Wong said Mr Zmood’s contribution to Australian design and culture was significant.

“It was the first ever Australian-trained head of design at General Motors,” Mr Wong said.

“You can see his influence in so many. Holden’s driving around today.”

Mr Zmood began his career at Holden in March 1965, where he worked as a staff designer on the HR, HK, HT and HG range of vehicles.

Promoted to assistant chief designer in 1966, he made significant contributions to the HQ sedan, wagon and coupe (Monaro), and was chief designer of the Torana studio from 1969 until 1978.

After working in Germany at Opel as chief designer, Mr Zmood returned to Melbourne and, in 1983, was appointed Director of Design at GM Holden.

The exhibition is part of the State of Design Festival co-ordinated by Mr Wong to celebrate 175 years of Victorian design.

Other design items featured included the Furphy water tank, the DeBrecourt water wheel, the baby capsule and Wiltshire Staysharp knife.

Mr Wong attended St George’s Rd Primary School and North Tech in Shepparton before graduating in industrial design at RMIT.

He worked at ED Parsons Engineering in Moorooduc before becoming a lecturer in industrial design.

Mr Wong is also the co-ordinator for RMIT’s industrial design Open Day on Sunday, August 8.

Zmood: Designing Holdens is at the Melbourne Museum’s Discovery Centre until August 8.

**IN BRIEF**

Smugglers appear

BRISBANE: Six Indonesian men have appeared in a Brisbane court charged with people-smuggling.

The court heard two of the men, Anton Tamburan, 28, and Isko Sampurno, 22, were picked up by a naval patrol boat west of Christmas Island in February.

Nuhun Fatukaloba, 39, Salii, 44, Ferry Irawan, 29, and Tommy Firland, 30, were found at Ashmore Reef in January.

The police each been charged with one count of organising and bringing groups of non-citizens into Australia.

The maximum penalty for people smugglers is 20 years’ jail.

No application for bail was made.

The men were remanded in custody to reappear in Brisbane Magistrates Court via videolink on August 27.

Labor to launch

CANBERRA: Labor will wait until the last week of the federal election campaign to hold its official launch.

As expected, the launch will be held in Brisbane as Labor battles to hang onto a swag of marginal Queensland seats at the August 21 poll.

ALP headquarters yesterday confirmed the date of the party’s campaign launch as Monday, August 16.

That’s just five days before the election.

The Coalition has yet to announce the date of its campaign launch.

Teen unlicensed

MELBOURNE: A teenager killed in a double fatality was driving a stolen car on a cancelled learner’s permit at the time of the crash, police said yesterday.

The 17-year-old male from Thornbury in Melbourne’s north and his female passenger in her twenties, who is yet to be identified, died at the scene.

The stolen Holden Monaro was travelling north along St Georges Rd in North Fitzroy when it slammed into a lamp post near Miller St about 2am yesterday.

Police are investigating witnesses’ claims the car was being driven erratically before the crash, Sergeant Justin Goldsmith of Northcote police said.

He said police had established that the Holden was stolen from outside a home in Craigieburn earlier in the evening.

Sgt Goldsmith said it was too early to say it was a matter of life.

“It’s obviously really reckless conduct, really negligent driving,” he said.

Young people have got to realise they’ve got a responsibility to drive safely on the road.

“It has an enormous impact on the community. It is taken in those circumstances. It’s not just them, it’s their family and their friends and the police involved.”

**Hinch to take case to High Court**

Broadcaster Derryn Hinch has won the right to argue before a full bench of the High Court that suppression orders he allegedly breached are constitutionally invalid.

Mr Hinch is charged with breaching court suppression orders by naming two sex offenders at a victims of crime rally in 2008 and on his website.

He appeared in the High Court in Melbourne yesterday when his lawyers asked to move his case from the Magistrates Court to the High Court so he could challenge the orders.

Mr Hinch’s barrister, David Bennett QC, said the orders, made under the Victorian Serious Sex Offenders Monitoring Act 2005, contravened the notion that courts should be open to the public.

“This is a case where the whole exercise is about constitutionality,” he said.

“It’s a very serious attack by the legislation on the fundamental nature of the court system.

Outside court, Mr Hinch said the outcome was “very good news”.

“It’s a privilege and it’s an honour to get to the High Court, which we’ve achieved today,” he said.

The whole issue is public interest and I still believe the suppression orders are too strong in the state of Victoria.

“It becomes an issue of freedom of speech, that the fundamentals get too much attention, that the public’s interest is not served.

We have situations where police cannot even release the picture or the name of a convicted rapist or pedophile until they go to court and get permission.

Now that is wrong in any state. It’s madness. This is one step along the way to the High Court to see if something can be done.”

A date for the hearing has not been set.