



AUCKLAND VETERAN & VINTAGE CAR CLUB INC.



The Bulletin

JUNE 2018





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July Bulletin closing date

Cover Designed by Melanie Ball

Strictly 25 June 2018



Chairman's Report

Hi every body—The month of May started off with John Stokes' Veteran section meeting, which had a good turn out of 25.

Our club rooms were booked out on the weekend of 12/13th May for the Federation of Motoring Clubs AGM and on the Sunday there were around 40 people in attendance.

The mid week tourers had a very good turn out of 35 cars with about 70 + members visiting Peter Alderdice's South Auckland property. Peter showed them around his new barn which houses his Harley's and Morgan's and various memorabilia.

The motorcycle meeting was down on numbers due to me and 20+ others going to the Northland Motorcycle Rally. Even so the meeting went well with John Campbell showing the 1929 film of the building of The Civic Theatre in Queen Street Auckland.

On the following Sunday John Stokes put on a Rear Wheel Brake run that had a turn out of 7 and our Club Captain Lynda spent the day helping John with the run.

The Commercial and Charabanc section are ticking over, if you would like to join them and learn more about trucks and the Charabanc, contact John Campbell.

Club night had Andy Gourlay showing a film and photos of his fathers 14 years of sailing from the UK to the Antarctic from 1925 to 1939.

On the last Sunday of the month we had the Experts Rally plotted by Russel and Jocelyn McAlpine. The winner was Glenn & Marion Morris.

Martin Spicer



Club Captain's Report

My gosh, it's the end of May and we are starting to feel with winter chills upon us.

Another interesting motoring month of May has been enjoyed from events far away and near to home. The mid week tourer's event continues in popularity. I believe 35 vehicles assembled at the start and finished at Peter Alderdice's lovely property in Brookby to peruse all his motoring goodies in his new barn.

Twenty five of our motorcycle members travelled to Whangarei for the Northland Motorcycle rally. What a rally, covering some spectacular Northland scenery and enjoying some wonderful Northland weather, of blue skies and sunshine.

The same weekend John Stokes ran a Rear Wheel Brake run and it was wonderful to see some of the grand old ladies out. Seven vehicles lined up at John's home in Mauku, ranging in age from 1912 to 1930, to participate in a 45 mile run in and around the Mauku, Waiuku country roads. The weather stayed fine until the last 10 minutes when a little bit of rain came down. Thanks John for running this event, it was enjoyed by all who attended.

At May's Club night we hosted Andy Gourlay, one of the motorcycle section members who treated us to some interesting family history of his father and his many visits to Antarctica between 1925 and 1939.

The Club run for May was the Experts Rally which Russel & Jocelyn McAlpine plotted. The winners were Glenn & Marion Morris, with Alan & Shaaran Price taking second and Rodger and Val Ball earning third place. Well done and thanks to Russel, Jocelyn and their team.

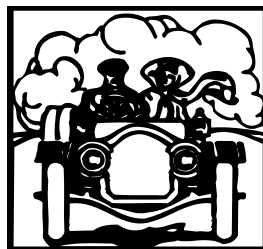
I am still wanting a plotter for the Daffodil Day Run, the VVCC National fund-raising event for Cancer research, on 26th August. Please give this some thought - most of us have either been directly touched by cancer or know of friends or family who have been. The run does not need to be a long one but does need to finish somewhere where we can get together afterwards for a natter and a cuppa. **So, who would like to volunteer to plot this event?** It doesn't have to be one person but can be a couple of couples doing it together. You will have the additional support of the Committee as there is a bit more admin to do as it is a charity event, so don't be shy. Give me a call if you think you would like to do this.

Congratulations to all the winners of May's runs and rallies.

The June club run, Sunday 24 June, combined with North Shore Branch will start from Westgate Shopping Centre carpark, behind the Events Movie Cinema. First vehicle away at 11:00 a.m., finishing at North Shore Branch Clubrooms for BYO lunch.

I look forward to seeing you out and about.

Lynda Spicer



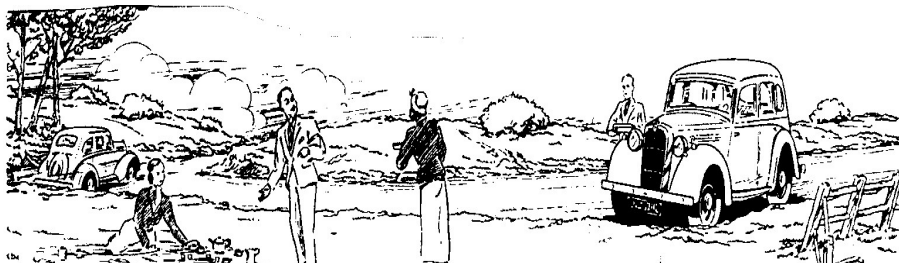
Secretary's Notes

This month is AGM month, a time to reflect. Whatever part the VCC plays in your life, whether small or large, take the time to think about it and come along to the AGM and support your Branch by having a say and voting for your choice of Committee. It is also the night we make presentations for Annual trophies, service badges and this year present the Bill Shears Memorial Trophy for the first time. If you are considering standing for Committee, please contact Martin Spicer or myself.

Last month I attended the Federation of Motoring AGM at our clubrooms. This group unites all likeminded motoring enthusiasts and one of its key roles is to deal with government bodies on all matters that affect you and I and the use of our classic vehicles on our roads, ensuring our views are heard and taken into account when decisions are made. They put together submissions on any proposed legislative changes that impact us and a small group from the FOMC which includes Tony Bartlett and our National President Diane Quarrie are planning to meet with senior government officials later this year to proactively campaign on a number of issues facing us now or in the near future. The Vintage Car Club is an affiliate and if you belong to a one make club that does not belong, why not encourage them to affiliate. The cost is not great and even if you are small in numbers you become part of a much bigger entity that has considerable weight and influence. As vintage motoring features significantly in Stephen and my retirement bucket list, I'm right behind these guys! There were also two guest speakers, the first the CEO of Gull talking about the workings of the petrol industry here and the second gave us plenty to think about around insurance, particularly in the area of personal liability. An interesting day.

Remember to update me with any changes of address, phone number or most importantly email address and if you would like to opt in to receiving all Bulletins by email, let me know.

Tracey Winterbottom



Library Notes

It's the end of another good year and time to thank all our supporters for the donations of books, manuals and magazines that they have given to us. We added 60 to our shelves and with sales of duplicates we purchased another 20. Chris Wood spent a lot of time on our Laptop and updated our Catalogues and we can now say that we have 2200 books and 2500 manuals & hand-books recorded by title, author and print date for books and make, year model and part number for Manuals. We then give the Manuals a library number which sometimes helps us to find them on the shelves.

With all these extras we have had to put some of our magazines into plastic boxes which we are storing in the barn and our next project is to record where they are up there! We have of course kept the historic magazines in the Library where we have a dry atmosphere.

Our next Book Sale has been deferred until Hunua Weekend as a trial to see if we can attract some new buyers so look out for our notice later in the year

Barry Robert and the Library Team—Barry Birchall, Colin Bott, Owen Hayward, John Stokes & Chris Wood



**Save this date
Saturday Evening
25 August**

Bingo night at the Clubrooms

Auckland Branch
fundraising for
VCCNZ National
Day



Motorcycle Notes

The weather for the May meeting was overcast with heavy showers, the only bike was Bob Atley.

There were around 24 members in attendance. Martin Spicer sent his apology, along with 23 other members who had gone up to the Northland Motorcycle rally.

Reports:

Brian Gathercole told us about the last club run that went out to Michael Antonievich to look over his collection of army vehicles, trucks and cars. On the run there were 3 bikes and 12 cars. The run was won by Cedric Pegrum and navigator Martin Spicer.

Loreta McGarry told us about the last midweek tourers run which finished at Peter Alderdice's farm to view his workshop and great vehicle collection, there were 35 cars and around 70 people. Rob Lauder spoke about his BSA Bantam which is now back on the road and about his restoration of a James two stroke that he needs parts for, so if any members can help Rob with parts please make contact with Rob on email: roblauderr@gmail.com Don Green has been helping with the renovation of the James' front forks.

Coming Up:

Saturday 16 June—Motorcycle Meeting and the guest speaker is Ray Pratt from Auckland Harley Davidson. This meeting is also the election of the Motorcycle Co-ordinator.

Thursday 28 June—AGM at the clubrooms at 8:00pm There will be a few Committee members standing down so please think about coming on board and help run your Branch. It entails attending a monthly Committee meeting and the odd bar duty during the year.

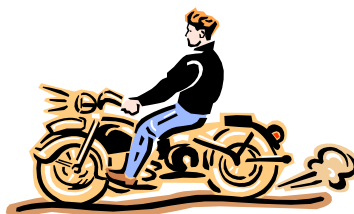
Saturday 21 July—Motorcycle Meeting, guest speaker will be bike racer and co owner of - Pro/Rider Paul Pavletich with one of his race bikes.

Guest Speaker—John Campbell showed us a very historical film from 1929 on the building of the Civic Theatre in Queen Street. If you didn't see it do have a look at this link and other related links. I think there might also be a copy in the Library. Lynda Spicer spoke at the end of the film about her involvement with the friends of the Civic when it was to be renovated.

Civic Theatre (Auckland) – Wikipedia

Well that's all for now so keep those 2 and 3 wheels turning safely.

Jack Clark



Photos & Memories Wanted

Photos & Memories Wanted

October 2018 sees our 60th Hunua 100. I am looking to collate some photos and stories from Hunua's over the last 60 years.

If you are in a position to scan photos and email them to me with some captions that would be great. If not, just let me know and I can scan photos and return to you.

All stories gratefully received, from a couple of sentences to a couple of pages. Many of you will have anecdotes from the humorous to hard luck and all sorts in between, so don't wait for me to tap you on the shoulder.

Please drop me an email or call me.

Tracey Winterbottom

vintagesunbeam@hotmail.co.nz or 021 732 209 or (09) 232 0246



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Or call in and see us at 8/2 Lansford Crescent, Avondale

Entertainment Notes

Thanks to Martin Spicer we had Andy Gourlay speaking about traveling in Antarctica – inspiring stuff Andy, appreciate you taking time to share your Dad's and your experiences with us.

June is of course our AGM – look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Members make the club, so make your membership count.

Then onto July club night when we have our North Island Club Captain Kaaren Smylie giving us a talk on all things happening on the wider car club front. Come along and get first-hand information on coming events and happenings.

Russel McAlpine



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Commercial Notes

The Federation of Motoring Clubs held their AGM and conference in our clubrooms over the weekend of 12 & 13 of May. There was much interest in the two guest speakers, Dave Bodger, General Manager of Gull Petroleum and an Insurance Broker, who spoke on compulsory third party insurance, a clubs liability and how it might affect members and much more. There is no doubt that Gull have kept the big three oil companies on their toes with pricing, around the North Island at least. There are no Gull outlets in the South Island, due to there being no available storage facilities. The Federation consists of over 120 different motoring clubs and is a powerful lobbyist for the New Zealand motorist at a time now when we are continually threatened with fuel tax increases by central and local governments and pressure is exerted to have us all driving electric vehicles by a certain time. I recently heard of a Nissan Leaf, requiring four charge ups at 40 minutes a time being required, on a trip to Wellington. I strongly recommend those of you who can, Google F.O.M.C. and read their Wheel Torque Newsletter.

By popular request, I recently showed the "Construction of The Civic" to the motorcycle section. It certainly does generate some interest. And I still marvel at the old solid tyred trucks inching their way up wooden ramps from the bowels of the construction site with a decent load of spoil aboard. It has been suggested to me that the Winstone trucks were Beans. There were many of these English Beans in New Zealand in the 1920's and solid tyred vehicles were quite legal, though limited as to the maximum speed they could travel at.

This is a 1926 30 cwt model albeit with pneumatic tyres which was restored by Alf Barnes of Wellington between 1969 and 1974. Around 250 of these trucks came to New Zealand, although I would suggest that the Winstone trucks, Beans or not were quite a bit older. This beauty now enjoys retirement at the Bill Richardson Transport Museum in Invercargill.



Keep M Rolling

John Campbell

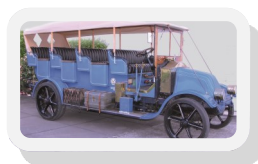


Veteran Notes

The May meeting had an attendance of about twenty members, including Wellsford Branch members Grant Stott and Doug Hamilton and North Shores David Lane. Barry Birchall is in Indonesia at the moment.

Dennis Lowe spoke about an oil and grease resistant product that he has found useful as a clutch and clutch brake lining. It's called 3701 and is marketed by Waikato Bonding 0800 266 300. You must ask for "Rambo" for the details. It's in a flat sheet and may need to be segmented if you are using it on a cone clutch. It's not cheap. Dennis also displayed a brochure on the single cylinder Oldsmobile. Kit Maxwell reported that the Waikato Veteran/Rear Wheel Brake Rally was successful. Phil Henley brought along a rare Lucas generator, which was subsequently identified, through the web, as fitting BSA, Norton, Triumph and Morgan. David Oliver displayed a Model T camshaft centring tool which didn't seem to work and various members gave advice on how to use it. Roy Sharman has got hold of two veteran Unic parts books, both in English and in very good condition. David Lane talked about setting up the rear main bearings on Model T Fords. He also spoke of a product "Waytill", a lacquer which he has found very useful for protecting brass. He also used a product called "Blue Magic" to clean the brass before lacquering. This product leaves no residue in the nooks and crannies and is available from R A Johnson and Co. Barry Robert noted that a Rover collector in Queenstown has brought two 8 hp Rover Singles and also a 16 hp Rover. The 16hp car being ex the Southward collection. The Library was able to supply information to a member who is contemplating purchasing a veteran. Thanks to Roslyn Lowe for afternoon tea.

John Stokes





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Mid Week Tourers

Coast to coast runs seem to be the "thing" at present, three of our members have just done it and it was a group of Auckland members who did it first about twenty years ago. Inspired then by a dream of the late Earl Gill, who had the idea of a "Sunrise, Sunset" one day run from East Cape to Cape Egmont, but never saw it to fruition. Not for the faint hearted, but to see that ball of fire come up over the horizon, then to see it set again will never be forgotten. Last month we started from Drury, where there was once a wharf, (west coast,) crossed a mountain, (Sky High Rd Hunua) then out to Whitford, where there still is the remains of a wharf, (east coast), and finished at the Alderdice's where Peter had the BBQ going with sausages and a cuppa. Over lunch Peter kept our attention with the history of his vehicles, mostly Veteran and Vintage Harley Davidsons. One solitary engine was of interest to many, a Militaire. Peter will welcome any leads to Militaire parts. Thank you Peter for your hospitality.

A great turnout of cars but where were the 2 wheelers and an even better turnout of members when I realized that many of the cars had three or four members sharing a ride. Good to see Tony and Angela Forster, nowadays living in Ngunguru, Mike Loosemore had his newly restored Austin out for it's first run, new member Harvey Brewer was seen, Kelvin Smith, a Ford man, had what is now a very rare vehicle, a Fordson Ten van, Bruce Larsen from the North Shore was in a Caterham Super Seven, and our recently retired Rodger Ball, fresh from their coast to coast, with the "A" looking like it had just come out of the paint shop.

We extend our condolences to Clive Geary, whose wife Carol passed away late last month. Clive and Carol have enjoyed our runs over many years.

Wednesday 20 June: Starts from the Warehouse Car Park Westgate. 10:00 a.m. for a 10:30 a.m. departure. Don Johnston and Murray Firth are taking us to Gulf Harbour where we will be treated to a fantastic display of large fish feeding in their natural habitat. BYO lunch, there are also cafés nearby.

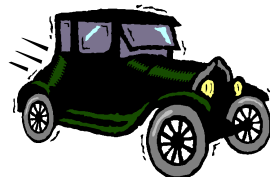
Wednesday 11 July: N.B. a week earlier in order to obtain the booking with Ryders. Starts **again** from The Warehouse car-park, Westgate. 10:00 a.m. for a 10:30 a.m. departure. The run will finish at Ryders Cinema for a Mid-winter roast dinner, followed by a film of our choice. No, not Three Shades of Grey! Maybe Genevieve. Cost - \$23-00pp. We need numbers **now**, for catering purposes. **Please let me know, email me now. Telephone if you don't have email.** (Ryders can only host a maximum of 50 people, so first in first served. If we have less than 50, the price will be \$25pp).

Wednesday August 15: Starts from the Drury Service Centre, Southern Motorway 10:00 a.m. for a 10:30 a.m. departure. More details next month.

The Dewdrops & the Mid-Week Team

Ph: (09) 232 0245 or email dewdrops@xtra.co.nz

Mobile (as a last resort) 021 051 3770



2018 Northland Motorcycle Rally

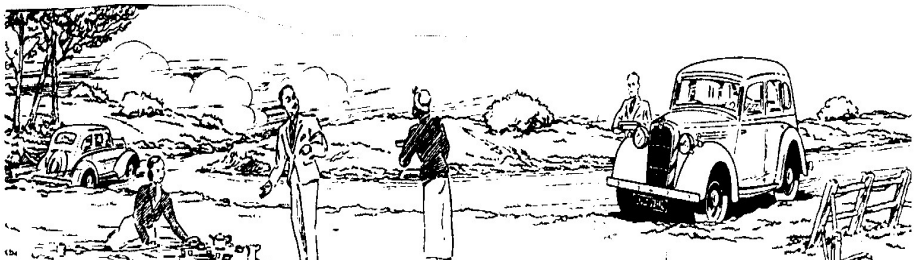
I haven't attended the event for some years and when Michael O'Kane and Chris Clark mentioned they had never been, what better excuse than to join them and send an email entry. Michael took on the role of camp mother and arranged accommodation. We set off from Westgate on Friday morning 18 May. Getting there involved my first vintage experience in the Waterview tunnel and doesn't it make you think of the consequences of an unintended stop! The weather was brilliantly fine and Michael lead us to SH 16 via Peak Rd and onto Wellsford. Fortunately, traffic was light to Whangarei and we really enjoyed that first 100 miles of riding. Lunch was had at the Irish Pub and dinner a takeaway roast, how healthy.

Saturday dawned fine with 57 entrants enjoying a cuppa at the Branch clubrooms. Auckland entries totalled 23, a great turn out. The rally route meandered north through back country roads to Dargaville where a magnificent full cooked meal including pudding was provided for lunch. The afternoon section returned via some twists and turns to the clubrooms via Tangiteroria and Maungakarama, places I have never heard of. All up about 105 miles for the day. The prize giving dinner was well attended and generous donations from sponsors meant that the place getters were well rewarded. There was also lots of lucky spot prizes, however none of my lucky spots succeeded.

Fortunately, overnight rain had disappeared by Sunday morning and we enjoyed a return ride, retracing our steps via Wellsford and SH16.

Another great rally organised by the small Motorcycle section of the Northland Branch and high on my list for a repeat visit next year. Put it on your to do list.

Peter Alderdice



2018 Experts Rally

Given the general mood within the club towards competitive rallies, we plotted this event with a feeling of wanting to provide somewhat of a challenge without using an excessive amount of our energy and time in doing so. Our pessimism around numbers supporting this event were founded when 7 hardy stalwarts arrived to start the rally at Coyle Park in Pt Chevalier on a somewhat cold, showery, Sunday afternoon, May 27.

Unfortunately the Foot's had to pull out due to mechanical issues, however the rest managed to find their way to the end and enjoy each others company over a warming cuppa at the Packing Shed Café in Oratia.

Our thanks to Wayne & Carrie Roberts for being start and trail car and for their checking of the rally.

We also appreciate time given by marshals Tim Manning and also Fay & Dudley Kitson for manning their on course check without seeing anyone – the non-capitalising of the Give Way instruction fooling everyone. John Stokes saw 3 entrants who managed to notice the mis-spelling of Penney Ave. So with those 3 getting all the silent checks it was down to time to find a winner. Glenn & Marion Morris did exceptionally well in this instance only losing a further 2 points to be crowned this year's Experts.

Time we believe for the Committee to have a look at this trophy event with a view of bringing it in line with what club members will participate in. If you have an opinion make sure you let your Committee know.

Results:

1 st	Glenn & Marion Morris	1928 Model A	52 points lost
2 nd	Alan & Shaaran Price	1965 Vauxhall	67 points lost
3 rd	Rodger & Val Ball	1930 Model A	69 points lost

Russel & Jocelyn McAlpine



Coming Events

June

16	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting—Clubrooms	2:30pm
20	Wed	Mid Week Tourers	10:00am
		Starts The Warehouse Car Park, Westgate	
24	Sun	Club Run—Combined with North Shore Branch	11:00am
		Starts Westgate Shopping Centre (behind Cinemas)	
27	Wed	Commercial Meeting & Charabanc Maintenance Night	
		Clubrooms	8:00pm
28	Thurs	Branch AGM	8:00pm

July

3	Tues	Committee Meeting	7:30pm
7-8		Winter Woollies Wander (Wellsford/Warkworth Branch)	
8	Sun	Central North Island Swapmeet (Rotorua Branch)	
11	Wed	Mid Week Tourers (Note a week earlier)	
		Starts The Warehouse Car Park, Westgate	10:00am
12	Thurs	Bulletin via Branch website or email	
14	Sat	Veteran Section Meeting—Clubrooms	2:30pm
15	Sun	Motorcycle Kick Start Rally	
		Starts Howick Historical Village	11:00am
21	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting—Clubrooms	2:30pm
25	Wed	Commercial Meeting & Charabanc Maintenance Night	
		Clubrooms	8:00pm
26	Thurs	Club Night—North Island Club Captain Kaaren Smylie	8:00pm
29	Sun	Club Run	
31	Tues	Committee Meeting (August)	7:30pm

August

9	Thurs	Bulletin Mailing	7:30pm
3-5		National Executive Meeting & AGM	
		(Hosted by Hawkes Bay)	
11	Sat	Veteran Section Meeting—Clubrooms	2:30pm
15	Wed	Mid Week Tourers	
		Starts Drury Service Centre, Southern Motorway	10:00am
18	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting—Clubrooms	2:30pm
19	Sun	Motorcycle Eddie Sim Rally—start & venue TBA	
22	Wed	Commercial Meeting & Charabanc Maintenance Night	
		Clubrooms	8:00pm
23	Thurs	Club Night	
25	Sat	Bingo Night—Fundraising for VCCNZ Daffodil Day	
25	Sat	Sulphur City Rally (Rotorua Branch)	
26	Sun	Club Run—VCC Daffodil Rally for Cancer	

Note: The clubrooms are open on the second and fourth Thursday evenings each month from 7:30pm till 10:00pm and every Saturday afternoon from 4:30pm till 6:30pm.

Coming Events

Club Night

**Thursday 28 June
8:00 p.m.**

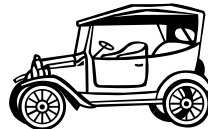
Auckland Branch



June Club Run Combined with North Shore Sunday 24 June

**Starts: Westgate Shopping Centre Car
park, behind Events Movie Cinema**

Time: 11:00 a.m.



**Finishes: North Shore Clubrooms
BYO Lunch**

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Auckland Veteran & Vintage Car Club Inc.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 28th June 2018

**To be held in the Auckland Branch Clubrooms,
39 Fairfax Avenue, Penrose.**

Meeting commences 8:00 p.m.

**Agenda: Apologies
Minutes 2017 AGM
Annual Reports
Financial Statement
Election of Officers
Prize Giving
25 & 35 Year Presentation Awards
General Business**

A light supper will be provided and the Bar will NOT be open.

Members are requested to show their membership cards to receive voting papers.

All nominations for office should be duly proposed, seconded and accepted by Financial Members and delivered to the Secretary, or maybe made from the floor at the AGM, if required.

**T Winterbottom
Secretary AVVCC**

Nomination Form

NOMINATION FORM for the 2018-19 COMMITTEE

Positions available are: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Captain and six Committee Members.

Non Committee Positions are: Librarian, Beaded Wheels Scribe & Bulletin Editor

All positions are available for nomination so here is your opportunity to put your name or someone else's forward for a position.

I wish to nominate: _____ (Print)

to the position of: _____

Proposer: _____ (Print)

Signature: _____

Seconder: _____ (Print)

Signature: _____

Nominee: _____ (Print)

Signature: _____



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Wanted—Organiser for Daffodil Rally

Organiser Wanted

for

this exceptional annual event designed to raise awareness of our club while benefitting the Cancer Society.



VCC Daffodil Rally for Cancer

Sunday 26th August

All branches over the country will be organising their own event/rally on this day. Last year collectively we raised \$40,000!

The event is not restricted to VCC vehicles – the more the merrier

Our Club Captain Lynda would love to hear from you spicerclan2017@gmail.com
Ph 09 233 6382 or 021 454 593



Veteran Cars at Ardmore Grand Prix 1956

In the months leading up to the Ardmore Grand Prix, George Giltrap approached the organizing Committee and asked if he could have a race around the track for veteran cars manufactured before 1916 before the main event. He told the media they had to refer to the cars as, "Veteran Cars" not as "Old Cocks," a term many had used. They agreed, providing the cars had been at the practice two days before and had been checked by some scrutineers appointed by the club. George then contacted anybody in the North Island that had a mobile veteran. At the time there was not a lot of interest in old cars. There was only one Branch of the Vintage Car Club in the North Island, at Wanganui, and a Veteran and Vintage Car Club in Auckland that was not affiliated to the National Body in Christchurch. (Auckland became part of the Vintage Car Club in 1959). George may have organized the event to encourage people to join the old car movement and to give his new car museum some publicity.

At the time, tyres for old cars were still very hard to source and the Vintage Car Club in Christchurch had a Committee set up just to look for new tyres. Many purchased another old car just to get the tyres, to keep an old car on the road. After a lot of work 22 veterans from all over the North Island entered the race. Many of the cars had been given paint brush restoration in the weeks leading up to the event. One person said he spent that much time on his car, it almost cost him his marriage.

Merv Hunt, a garage proprietor from Taradale, had entered a 1914 Minerva and a 1913 Sunbeam. George Giltrap entered five cars from his museum in Rotorua. The cars included a 1900 Albion, 1907 Cadillac, 1910 Hupmobile, 1914 Ford T and a 1915 Chandler. Four cars arrived on two transporters from Wanganui. The cars were garaged at Johnson and Sons, Engineers in Parnell and the group stayed with Rick Harris in Epsom. The cars included, Bert Tonk's 1913 Daimler, Ken Wright's 1908 Clement Talbot, Bryan Walker's 1910 Zedel and Tom Stirling's 1916 Overland. One of the trucks they used to shift the vehicles cannot have been in great shape as they used 4 gallons of oil on the trip. Alfred Werner and Joy Swan drove the 1913 Ford T, recently removed from a chook run, two hundred miles from Te Teko to take part.

From Auckland, Jim Francis entered the 1910 Delage with a new roadster body, Howie McMeekin entered the scruffy Model T Ford that was once the fire tender car at Devonport. Dawson Donaldson entered the FN that had been a taxi in Hawera, Hardy Motor Wreckers from Avondale entered four cars, a 1915 Buick, 1913 Talbot, 1913 Minerva and the 1910 Twombly. Garth Hughes from Hamilton entered the oldest car, the Tidswell (Auto Parts) 1896 Benz, still in very original condition. Seabrook Fowlds entered the 1912 Austin, the Tennent Brothers entered a 1911 White steam car and Graeme McDonald, still a university student, with the Clement Brothers entered a 1911 Fiat. Phil Jones drove the 1914 Model T Ford provided by George Giltrap, which was a late entry and was not in the program. B Calkin drove the Hupmobile and A S Tattersall drove the Albion for Giltrap.

The scrutineers for the Veterans were Dick Messenger, Jack Philips, Peter Maxwell and Andrew Thomson. The scrutineers decided Merv Hardy's Talbot,

Veteran Cars at Ardmore Grand-Prix 1956

Minerva and Twombly could not start as they did not have period built bodies. Merv Hardy was very prominent in the speedway at the time and was pretty upset. The Twombly had appeared at the inaugural run organized by the Veteran and Vintage Car Club in Auckland and at a Vintage Car Club event in Inglewood. When the scrutineers inspected Jim Francis' Delage, they were impressed with the new roadster body and said it was much better than the hideous van body that had been on the car for so long. At the time, the car was painted light blue and there was no windscreen or hood. The White Steamer and Chandler did not turn up at the start. The scrutineers could have also stopped the Sunbeam from starting as there are no records of it going around the track.

The cars were handicapped and had to complete five laps of the track. The Benz and the Albion were sent off after the main group and only completed one lap of the track. The veteran cars were parked in the pits alongside the racing cars. The first car left the start line at 11:45am. The cars had done one lap of track behind a pace car before the race started. Phil Jones, eager to get in front, almost passed the pace car before the start flag was lowered. While some drivers, like Bert Tonks were prepared to nurse their car, Jones, Swan, Hunt, Faithful and Stirling had a great battle in the early laps to establish who had the faster car. The Overland from Wanganui was amongst the leaders when it had to pull out with a defective magneto after only two laps. Swan's Model T did complete the course but with minor electrical problems. The Cadillac had left the start in that much smoke you could not see the other vehicles. The Fiat had to make a pit stop to replenish a leaky radiator. On the fourth lap it was a battle between the Minerva and the Buick. Merv Hunt in the Minerva was coming out of the corners much faster and on the back straight managed to get away from the Buick and win the race. Charlie Faithfull, driving the 1915 Buick borrowed from Merv Hardy, was second and Phil Jones, driving the Giltrap Ford T, was third. Swans Model T was fourth car home.

There were nine cash prizes on the day presented to the owners of the Veteran cars, provided by George Giltrap and Robinson Trading. Merv Hunt won 25 pounds for having the first car home. Bert Tonks received 10 pounds for having the best prepared vehicle. Jim Francis won five pounds for finishing first in his class.

Over forty thousand spectators were there that day at the races. The main event had attracted such great names as Stirling Moss, Stan Jones, Jack Brabham and Reg Parnell. The main event and race for veterans was recorded on film by Clifford Irvine and is now on disc at the Vintage Car Club rooms. In 1957 they held the race again for old cars. The event was opened to vintage cars and only four veterans started. Merv Hunt probably pleased with his previous win was there again in the same 1914 Minerva. The Ardmore event in 1956, initiated by George Giltrap, was the first major event for veteran cars in the North Island in modern times organized by the Veteran and Vintage Car Club.

One reporter said after the run that the Veteran Grand Prix was an unqualified success. Others said damage had been done to the old car movement. The media prior to the event had said there would be a race between a steam car

Veteran Cars at Ardmore Grand Prix 1956

and a petrol car and the steamer never arrived. Then there was the issue with Merv Hardy's cars which Chet Parker, the secretary of the Veteran and Vintage Car Club, had told Merv to bring the cars along. The scrutineers could have been influenced by George Giltrap, said the vehicles could not start. They let Merv start the Buick, but only after they applied some paint on the car the day before. Merv Hardy never entered another Vintage Car Club event. There was a group there that wanted to see vintage cars on the track, but George Giltrap would not let them start. They did use Fairburn's impressive 1930 8 litre Hispano Suiza as the pace car. The steamer was sold just after the event to Len Southward.

If you look for the cars today, you would find the Daimler in the Trevelyan collection in the Hawkes Bay, the Clement Talbot, Benz and White steam car are all in the Southward collection and the Zedel now with Jim Francis' family in Australia. Jim Francis still has the Delage, the McMeekin Model T is with the Bremner family. Hans Compter has the Minerva and the Albion, the FN is now with Paul Collins, the Talbot is with George Mihaljevich, the Austin went to Ireland, the Buick to the UK and the Fiat is with Bruce Hutchinson in Te Puke. John Battersby on the Gold Coast purchased the Cadillac and Hupmobile off the Giltrap Estate and still has the cars. Merv Knoll in Australia restored the Twombly and still has the car. The Sunbeam is with Rex Healy and the Chandler went to Japan. The Overland on wire wheels was last sighted in Blenheim, but seems to have disappeared.

The 1914 Minerva was complete at Ardmore. Roy Southward used the rear tub of the car to complete the body on his 1912 Rolls Royce which is now in Australia. There is a film clip of the race in the Auckland Branch club rooms. The race at the Ardmore Grand Prix was the first major event organized by Auckland club where we saw a lot entries from out town.

Barry Birchall



VETERAN CARS TO RACE AT ARDMORE: Competitors lined up on the starting grid for a trial run on the Grand Prix course yesterday. They will compete in a ten-mile race over the circuit tomorrow.

Annual Reports



Chairman's Report:

Well they say time flies when you're having fun and that's what our motoring pastime is all about. It's about looking after our pride and joys, be they cars, motorcycles or commercial vehicles, working on them, polishing them and taking them out on runs or rallies.

You as members, are able, if you wish to attend up to three Branch events each month ranging from the motorcycle run, midweek tourers and our monthly run. For the majority of you who live in central Auckland, it must be a real treat to get out of town and enjoy the great countryside on offer to us as a way of getting away from the madness of city life. This also goes for the more adventuresome, who go to other Branches and take part in their rallies, you see different parts of the country and make new friends.

We have held some excellent Rallies this year, with the PV-P80V Rally, Hunua 100, Annual Motorcycle Rally, Experts, Vintage and Veteran rallies, all seeing an increase in numbers attending from previous years. We have also had some great monthly club and motorcycle runs, ending at some very interesting venues. Talking of runs and rallies, my thanks go out to all the plotters and their helpers who have made this year so enjoyable.

This past year we saw the first National Club Event, which was the inaugural Daffodil Day run raising funds for Cancer Research. We had a great turnout and raised a significant amount of money.

I would like to thank the current Committee: Russel McAlpine, Colin Bell, Tracey Winterbottom, Ian Hubbard, John Stokes, John & Pat Campbell, Don Green, Len Harvey and Lynda for the help in making the running of the Branch's business go as smoothly as it has. Thank you also to our "backroom" people who make the clubrooms tick over so well: Dave & Barbara Allbon, Dudley & Fay Kitson, Pat Campbell, Leo Fowler, Val Ball and finally Barry Robert and his Library team. As you can see it takes a number of hard working people to make your Branch run as efficiently as it does.

During the year we've had some excellent club nights from Shiny Parts auction, to guest speakers, to movies and a successful shed night. The Branch is now the proud owner of a hydraulic press and we also recently had WiFi installed for your use whilst in the club rooms, and a screen fitted to a wall which will show a picture loop of our interesting vehicles and events.

I have enjoyed my year as your Chairman, which has been a learning curve as well, going to the National AGM and the Executive Meetings, opens ones eyes to what happens at the top end of our organisation and how much work is done from Christchurch office. Again, it was a pleasure to meet other executives of Branches further afield, learning about their Branch and challenges which all Branches face, especially that of attracting new members. I am

Annual Reports Contd...

pleased to say each month we have attracted several new members joining our Branch which is encouraging. During my tenure I have had the pleasure of also getting out and about promoting the Branch by attending and having a display at the Annual Motorcycle Show held at the ASB Showgrounds and also the Brit and Euro Classic Car Show day at Lloyd Elsmore Park, Pakuranga. It's always great talking to like minded people and promoting our Club and Branch to the public.

Martin Spicer



Club Captain's Report:

I cannot believe that I have served the Branch for 12 months as your Club Captain. I really don't know where the time has gone to.

My year started with a run which Martin and I plotted down to Pokeno to give Branch members the opportunity of meeting us, as your new Chairman and Club Captain. What a grand event, over 70 people came out in their vehicles and it was a fantastic opportunity for us to meet some new people. I have had the pleasure of attending every Club event except the last event of our calendar year, the Experts Rally. That happened to coincide with the first birthday celebrations of my grand-daughter Isabella. However I have enjoyed all the other events, whether it has been simply at the beginning, providing scones etc. and support, or manning a check point, or simply being at the end of the run or rally.

The Branch runs and rallies, from all sections, have finished at places of interest and have taken us over some great motoring roads. Overall we have visited, to name a few, Ambury Farm, Bruce McLaren Historic Racing Centre at Hampton Downs, Kings Plant Barn, Takanini, an interesting American car collection, Nikau Caves, Brookby Quarry, a great collection of WW2 Military vehicles and muscle cars, Seabird Centre at Miranda, plus a good selection of cafes. And not forgetting the Fish N Chip run to Kaiaua, our annual New Year Day event. The mid week tourers group have also visited some very interesting private collections during the year.

My thanks goes to all the plotters and helpers of all the runs and rallies, as without your time and effort, members would not have activities to enjoy on such a regular basis.

I also plotted a weekend overnighter to Te Kauri Lodge, Kawhia last September which was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended, notwithstanding the awful weather we had.

Some branch members have also participated in showing their vehicles at the Motorcycle Show at the ASB Showgrounds, the Brit and Euro Classic Car Show at Pakuranga and the Galaxy of Cars at Western Springs. We have also had members vehicles used in adverts and promotional events too.

Annual Reports Contd...

During the year we have travelled many hi-ways and bi-ways as we try to keep our runs off the main roads as much as we can, but with urban sprawl, it's getting harder to do so and we're having to go further afield. But nevertheless, we are still discovering roads not used before quite close to home.

I would like to thank Russel McAlpine for his organisation of guest speakers etc. for the monthly Club nights and to Martin Spicer for his ever expanding list of guest speakers for the Motorcycle section. I would also like to acknowledge John Campbell's continuing commitment to the Commercial Section and to John Stokes for starting monthly meetings for the Veteran section. Thanks also go to the Library and Charabanc team. Last but not least, thank you to Pat Campbell and her team of Fay Kitson and Barbara Allbon who have provided us a supper for each club night.

I would like to thank my fellow Committee members for their invaluable input into the Branch, as without them, their amount of voluntary hours, we would not have the Branch we all thoroughly enjoy.

Lynda Spicer



Entertainment Notes:

Firstly my thanks to all those who have provided me suggestions for guest speakers, to club members who have been guest speakers or have provided movie footage, to those who continually get stuck in at functions and help out and a special thanks to Pat Campbell and her team for the cuppa and date loaf every club night.

Club nights over the last year have included the usual Shiny Parts Auction, pre-rally Hunua tuition, the odd movie, some guest speakers, health and safety training night on our "Barn Equipment" and a Saturday "club night" where we helped members process their VICs.

Our after rally functions continued to be well catered by our ever helpful chef Gerald, with numbers reflecting vehicle entries on these events. Our Christmas Pot Luck Dinner was a merry event with our perennial Santa's Elf helping out. The classic film Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid was enjoyed by a good number at our "Campbell's Film Night", complete with ice creams and Jaffas. Our Hunua Garden Party held in great weather, saw six 50 year badges being awarded – certainly an indication of the longevity and loyalty of our members. So time now to look forward to the new car club year – are you up for it? Participate, join in, help out and make the most of this unique club and all that it has to offer.

Russel McAlpine

Annual Reports Contd...

Veteran Section Report:

It is safe to say that the Veteran Section seems well established eighteen months after its initiation. During the past year, meeting attendances have ranged from about twelve on a quiet day to twenty five plus on a good day. We attract a number of out of Branch visitors, just like the motorcycle section. The highlight of the year was the Veteran Run in February, which attracted twenty four entrants and twenty one starters. I thank those who made it and tolerated the appalling weather on the day. It must be considered that many of our members are also members of sister clubs such as HCCNZ and Model T Ford club, so they are also attending events organised by these clubs.

During a recent meeting the location of the veteran run was discussed, with a majority of those present favouring a South Auckland location and this is what will happen next year. I personally feel we tend to penalise the North Western Veteran owners and I really would like some input from any owners in the Henderson, Taupaki and Kumeu areas. I note HCCNZ recently staged a London Brighton type event out this way. A few of our motorcycle owners have attended section meetings, but given the popularity of the motorcycle section meetings we must understand that they prefer that type of event. Veteran motorcycle owners, we would love to see you.

There is a proposal for a Veteran event on the 11th of November to coincide with the one hundredth anniversary of the end of World War One, this is just a concept at the moment. We should note that the National Veteran Rally in Nelson is on the 16th to 18th of November.

A small rear wheel brake run in May attracted seven entrants, the majority of whom were veterans.

John Stokes



Commercial Section Report:

Each year that passes gives one cause to wonder whether the small section that we are, might hold out for another year. Our numbers are very small these days and this is a worry. The monthly meetings do attract a group of passionate commercial buffs though and long may this continue. The larger commercials that once appeared at rallies largely reside in museums these days and are rarely seen now on Auckland city streets, so the flag is kept flying by those with vehicles less than 3500 Kg's, including light Military vehicles. The function at our home in December gives us a chance to socialise with our wives/partners for a while and this too is looked forward to. Although I will retire from the Committee this month, I will still hold onto my mantle as Commercial Rep. and scribe.

Pat & John Campbell

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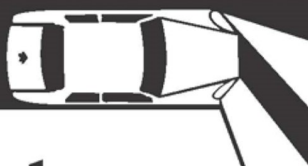
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