

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

APRIL 2023



ROTORUA



WE ARE ON FACEBOOK !

www.rvvcc.org.nz

March Club Captain's Run



SIDE CURTAINS - April 2023

The magazine of the ROTORUA
VINTAGE AND VETERAN CAR CLUB

Clubrooms: Neil Hunt Park, Tarawera Rd, Rotorua

Postal: PO Box 2014, Rotorua

Email: rotorua@vcc.org.nz

Website: www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

Vero Insurance: Phone 0800 658 411 and quote your VCC membership number

Club Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of month (except January), 7.15pm for 7.30pm start

OFFICERS

Chairperson - David Tomlinson

Secretary - Dennis Whimp
021 731 678

Treasurer - Maryann Scott

Club Captain
Terry Wadsworth

Asst. Club Captain
Fleur Tomlinson

Committee
Ronald Mayes
Neville Harper
Geoff Nitz
Alan Judd
Ken Thomas
John Newson

Mid Weekers - vacant

Side Curtains Editor - David Tomlinson
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Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

Librarian - Dennis Kenny

Librarian - Ronald Mayes

Cards/Flowers - Doreen Green

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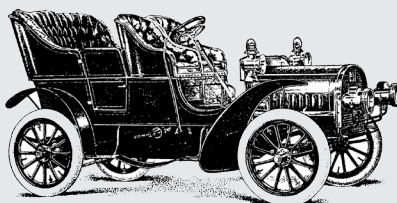
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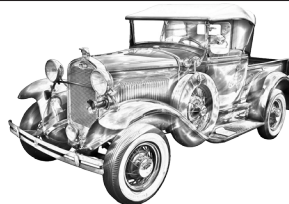
Cover Photos

Front - 1961 Rover P4 engine bay

Back - March car in the room

CLUB CAR PHOTOS

If you want your club car photo on the clubroom wall then get in touch with Doug Green, and he will organise a time and place for a photo shoot. It would be good if we could have all member's car photos on display.



Chairman's Report

- March 2023

by David Tomlinson



Another busy month has passed by, and for once we got an extended period of very warm, dry weather.

Our club night featured John Newson's 1961 Rover P4 100, which while a work in progress, is very drivable and appearing in all our recent club events.

We had a delayed Chairman's Run to allow members to attend Taupo's annual rally, which sadly they cancelled again due to low entry numbers. The Chairman's Run included a complimentary luncheon at the end as usual, but had a very low attendance. The weather was good, and the run was promoted as being a short simple run followed by a free lunch. Perhaps a few members were away. The run started and finished at my Ngongotaha workshop due to the Walk For Life taking over Neil Hunt Park that weekend.

Beach Hop went ahead helping prop up the Coromandel's economy with good numbers in attendance. They are going to have a very lean winter in that area with many challenging roading problems, not least of which the Kopu-Hikuai road which will be a year or more away from being fixed. I believe the first name called out in the \$50,000 cash give away at Beach Hop had returned home early, so got a consolation free entry to next year's event, and the prize was redrawn.

I went to the Hamilton Diner classic car breakfast meet on the

first Sunday in April, there was a “pea soup” fog all the way from Cambridge into Hamilton, and the fog stayed thick and low all morning. They still got a reasonable turn out, with a lot of Minis there, a Chev Corvair Monza, a Leyland P76 V8 and a 1929 Buick tourer along with many regular attendees.

I have spent most of Easter weekend prepping two of our cars that Fleur and I will take on a week long tour at the end of this month for the NZ Rolls-Royce and Bentley Club’s 50th Anniversary rally. We will be based in Masterton and enjoying a lot of the Wairarapa’s treats and will also hopefully get a guided tour of the RNZAF workshops at Ohakea on our last day involved. Hopefully the weather plays the game for a lot of the time we are away.

This month’s club night will feature Alan Judd’s 2022 (and a very late 2022 at that) Morgan Plus Four roadster, that I have seen all over the upper North Island in recent months. We will also debut our new 75” TV with supporting imagery to enhance our experience on the night. The TV ended up only costing \$1400, and just needs to have a final positioning and then it can be used regularly on club nights and other special events. Lets make sure it gets used a lot.

Please note that at on our May club night we will hold our 2023 AGM. We will be needing a new candidate for Branch Secretary, and it is always good to get new faces on the committee. It is not an arduous task, and helps shape the club’s direction. There will still be other activities on the night, please come along, this is really our most important club night each year. Help shape our direction in the next year and beyond.

March mid-week run to Lake Tarawera

by Dennis Whimp

The Bay of Plenty branch has their mid-week runs in the middle of the month. For March they thought it would be great to meet the Rotorua members for morning tea at the clubrooms, and then we could join them for lunch at the Tarawera Landing café. Approximately 18 club eligible vehicles made the trip over. Bill and Adela's 1929 Austin 7 got some good company from a 1930 Dodge 6 and a 1931 Model A roadster. Dennis' 1930 MG roadster had the company of a mid 30s MG saloon that the owner had purchased almost as long ago (45 years) as Dennis had. The little roadster was suffering from some ailment that required much pushing around the carpark to get started and even then it wouldn't run sweetly so Dennis retired it back home. There are some benefits in having such a light weight vehicle as I was thinking of my own 2 tonne one as we puffed along pushing the stuttering MG.

Included in the BOP crew were Kerry and Marie Hart, and Adele Lamb. They were instrumental in the design and construction of our current kitchen, library and garage some 25 years ago. There was a lot of nostalgia and a few tears as they had a good look around and reminisced about those days. Adele pointed out the Atlantic sign on the wall came from John Lamb's Martinborough garage when Atlantic ceased to exist in NZ.

Our members who were there for a greet and chat included John with his 1961 P4 Rover, Joelene (not sure if I saw the

Morris 8) and Roger with the green Stag. Roger had just got back from the South Island Stag Tour that he had to extend by a week as he had gone down with Covid. Diana must be the hardy one as I gather she did not catch it despite being a couple of weeks in a Stag cockpit. Shona and Pat with the big Mercedes were there and a big thanks to them as they dished out cups of tea and coffee and cleaned up afterwards.

Others there that went out to Tarawera included Terry and Sandra (BMW 2002 Tii), Peter with his Rover, Ronald with his Triumph, Ann and Gary (MG) and the writer.

Ralph had recovered enough from his broken leg to get the big Buick out, fit a new battery and join us for lunch. Human body ailments rather than car ailments led to a few of our members pulling out. We wish you a rapid recovery.

The day was perfect, clear sky and little wind. Lake like a mill pond with swimmers and fishers. Carpark alterations had just been completed and sealed. The caterer did very well cooking for that number of people as there is only one in the kitchen. He had said it may take 2 hours to get through the orders and it did. A few people took their lunch home as it came just as we all broke up. That wouldn't have mattered for the owner of the white Daimler Dart as he spent a lot of time trying to get his bonnet catch to close properly. Lots of advice, CRC and a hammer did the trick.

Apologies if I missed mentioning a Rotorua member but there was a lot of jaw wagging and storytelling going on.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Rotorua Vintage & Veteran Car Club Inc

The Branch AGM will be held at 7.30pm on 10th May 2023 at the Rotorua VCC Clubrooms, Neil Hunt Park, Rotorua.

Agenda items will include:

Apologies, Minutes of last year's AGM, Chairman's Report, Financial Report, Election of Officers, General Business

Only financial members may vote. Nomination papers are available from the club Secretary on request, or you can copy or cut out the form below.

Elections will be held for the following positions:

Chairperson, Branch Captain, Assistant Branch Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, committee member (between 3 and 6 may be elected)

Nomination Form for RVVCC AGM - 10th May 2023

I nominate

for the position of

Signed

I second the above nomination

Signed

I agree to have my name put forward for the above nomination

Signed

My 1961 Rover P4 100 *by John Newson*

My Rover P4 100 has a P5 3 litre motor with a 3 litre overdrive gearbox. This car had been sitting between 10 to 12 years on the owners section with the front end removed. It had been removed and primed, ready to be reinstalled. Radiator recored, front bumper, grill, lights, new spot lights all waiting to be installed.

The interior was there but also uninstalled. Seats were from a P5 3 litre ,very comfy in red leather but the carpet and door panels were missing. I organised to pick the car up from Auckland .The previous owner had told me that he has lots of new stuff that just needs to be put in. I arrived in Auckland saw the car and thought 'what the bloody hell have I got myself into?'. Got it loaded on Dave's trailer (it's a great trailer, light as). Had to run the car downhill and put blocks under front wheels to stop it running off the end of trailer and hitting my car as the trail winch didn't work. That was fun!!

I finally arrived back in Rotorua, I must admit the trailer towed very nice. Then it became a job and a half for me to get the car unloaded on my own uphill. Lots of swearing going on. The first job after I unloaded was to get it running. No spark, so cleaned the points, still no spark so cleaned points again and pulled out number 1 spark plug to see if I had a spark. Had number 1 plug sitting on the block, key on, screw driver across electrodes. BLOODY HELL, IT STARTED WITH NO1 PLUG OUT! Quick run around and turn the key off. Put plug back in (restarted ok). Then I set up the radiator, went to Super Cheap to find hoses to fit, filled with water then started car with the key, ran until hot and made sure there were no leaks and not overheating. All

good. Unfortunately the clutch didn't work. I then turned motor off. Started it in gear and ran till the end of drive. By the time I came to the end the clutch was working. Yep!!! Put it into reverse, backed up the drive and parked it.

VERY HAPPY at this stage. Big smiles. Now for the hard work! Had to put the guards on by myself. Damn these things weigh a ton. Had to hold it up to stop it from falling off and bolt it down. Only have 2 hands, more the pity. Still trying to work out how I did it. Both guards installed, took about 4 hours, all bolted up and in the right place. Sweet.

Now the grill and bumper took a bit of time as I needed more hands, and had to use my knees too. Also did some little jobs at the same time. Fuel filter, clean fuel tank, install seats, put down old carpet, seat belt etc. On to the wiring as all the wires stopped at the radiator so I had to run all the wires for all the front lights. I just took my time and worked my way through it. I have mentioned the brakes and the problems I had with them, so don't need to repeat it, now just happy that that's over with. What a pain in the ass.

Down for WOF. Passed no problems and that's how you see it today. Have ordered some door panels and other bits. Slowly getting it done the biggest thing I have to do now is save for a paint job and figure out what colour to paint. Black? Black bottom half red? Black with copper flecks which I like as it would sparkle in the sun. If anyone has any ideas please let me know, it maybe what I am looking for. The saga continues for me, lots of fun have really enjoyed working on it. Now I'm going to enjoy it even more.

Bumper Book of Car Toons *by Ronald Mayes*

Check out the noticeboard in the clubroom - there will be a new car toon displayed each month and you may see your car there, with a description of the type of driver who would most likely own it.

The illustrations and comments were the work of Don Grant, who published *The Bumper Book of Cartoons* in 1980. He tells me he was going to update it at the turn of the century but all the cars were by then following the same homogenised stylistic designs so there was not much scope for his imagination.

So, if your car is Manual or Dogmatic, a Half Timbered Tudor, a Silver Spoon, a 2-Labrador Estate. a Hatchback of Notre Dame, a Sloane Range-Rover or just a Van Ordinaire, you will immediately go out and trade it in for a vehicle less revealing of your character..

WANTED! A copy of *Beaded Wheels*, No. 377, August-September 2022 (a Land-Rover is in its element on the cover). It has my article about Vanden Plas cars and a copy is requested for the U.K. owners' club archives - Ronald Mayes

VCC “Daffodil Day” 2023

After putting options out to branches the VCC will hold “Daffodil Day” on Sunday, August 20th. This is the weekend before our annual Sulphur City Rally.

Not sure this is the most apt description for what the VCC's aims are in holding a “national day”, but this will be the day.



Rotorua Vintage & Veteran Car Club
proudly present the



The 42nd Annual Central North Island Swap Meet & Car Show Spectacular

Paradise Valley Raceway
7am - 2pm, Sunday, 9th July 2023



FEATURING VINTAGE, CLASSIC, MUSCLE CARS & HOT RODS

Hundreds of vendors, with items of interest to all collectors of cars, motorcycles, hot rods, automobilia, automotive books, old toys, model cars and trains. Almost everything antique or collectible.

Hot food and refreshments available

INQUIRIES

SELLERS: Neville Harper 07 348 2412 or 027 494 7249, email daharpers@gmail.com

CAR SHOW: Bob Mackay 07 332 3849, email bob.mackaynz@gmail.com

GENERAL: Alan Judd 022 049 5492, email judd21a@gmail.com



Admission -
Seller's vehicle and driver
\$10 per site

www.rvvcc.org.nz

All others -
\$5 per person
(Accompanied children FREE)

CLUB NIGHT - April 12th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 2022 Morgan Plus Four

Followed by tea and coffee.

Club Captain's 'Easter' Run Sunday, 16th April

Meet at clubrooms by 10.30am. There will be a simple run, approximately 50km, with questions as there is an award at prize giving for this event. At the conclusion of the run there will be buttered hot cross buns and other refreshments back at clubrooms, along with tea and coffee.

Midweekers

As this issue went to press there was no planned activity for the midweekers in April.

Notice of Motion for AGM 2023

I move that the branch levy remains the same for the new financial year at \$30 per full member.

Moved by Dennis Whimp

Seconded by David Tomlinson

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
Apr 2023	12	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	16	Club Captain's Run	10.30am	Clubrooms	11
	TBA	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
May 2023	10	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	14	Twilight Run	TBA	TBA	
	TBA	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
June 2023	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	18	Prize Giving Run	TBA	TBA	
	TBA	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
July 2023	9	Swap Meet	7am	Paradise Valley Raceway	10

www.rvvcc.org.nz

The branch website aims to meet the needs of our members, to promote our branch nationally, and to potential new members. If you have any suggestions please contact David Tomlinson.

Please also make sure you “Like” our Facebook page to keep up to date.

Contributions to Side Curtains

This is your magazine! Please feel free to share anything you think might be of interest to the membership by sending it to the editor, preferably by email, and a picture says a thousand words, so include photos where possible. Members taking part in club runs or events hosted by other branches are encouraged to pen a short piece about their experience to include in the next issue going to print. All items to the editor by the end of the month.

Hamilton Classics April Breakfast Meet



March Car In The Room

