

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

APRIL 2024



ROTORUA



WE ARE ON FACEBOOK !

www.rvvcc.org.nz

March Club Night



SIDE CURTAINS - April 2024

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 - Hayden Duncan
rotorua@vcc.org.nz 021 939 705

Treasurer - Dennis Whimp

Club Captain
Terry Wadsworth

Asst. Club Captain
Fleur Tomlinson

Committee
Ronald Mayes
Neville Harper
Geoff Nitz
Alan Judd
John Newson

Mid Weekers - vacant

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Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

Librarian - Dennis Kenny
Librarian - Ronald Mayes
Cards/Flowers - Doreen Green

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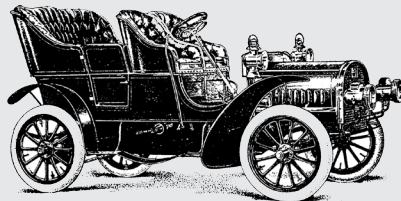
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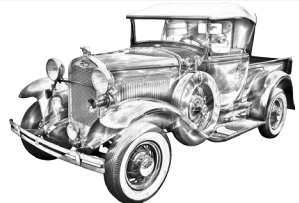
Cover Photos

Front - Crispian Rakels' Essex Super 6

Back - March BBQ Run

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 2024

by David Tomlinson



Our March club night featured a talk by John Peters and visitor Ross Thompson on off-road R/C cars. They belong to a club that race them at the TECT Park, with some capable of 70mph, and amazing technology for such small vehicles. All electric, and with spare batteries they get 3-4 hours of fun.

Our March club run was our annual BBQ Run, with a short afternoon run around the lake and back to the clubrooms for a BBQ dinner. I was one of at least two drivers who when passing home at the halfway mark changed cars. Challenging for the scorers!

Our April club run will be a non-competitive run ending with a BYO picnic lunch at the Judds in Hamurana. Thanks Alan and George. Fleur and Alex are in USA for few weeks R&R visiting friends so I need a few lunch options while she is away.

Don't forget our planned Horopito Trip in May. The registration of interest form is reprinted in this edition of Side Curtains.

A reminder that our AGM will be held on our June clubnight, not our usual May clubnight. It is possible a few positions on the committee will need new faces too.

We have the flyer for the July Swap Meet in this issue too, please remember that the volunteer efforts of all branch members at this event is all that keeps our branch's finances in order. Please put this weekend aside in your calendar, and if you don't know what to do, Alan Judd will help find a job for you.

I am off to Blenheim at the end of the month on a 5 day rally around the South Island, so hopefully the good weather continues.

March BBQ Run from a 1929 Essex navigator

by Dennis Whimp

A good number of club vehicles turned up for the March bar BBQ run including the 1929 Essex Super Six 4 door sedan of new member Crispian Rakels. As Crispian had no navigator, I volunteered, not realising what a nostalgic ride this would be.

With spare space in his garage, Crispian thought it would be great to satisfy an old itch and fill it with a vintage car. The Essex had been recently purchased and would be described as a very tidy refurbished original. The first thing I noticed was the suicide door one metre long piano hinges that connect to the all steel frame. These doors were never going to sag and closed perfectly. The 55hp six cylinder engine started easily and we were off for a trip around the lake with many tricky questions to answer. Then the nostalgia set in.

Double declutch between the gear changes, just trying to get the engine speed right. Crispian had mastered this pretty well. Petrol gauge not working so a wooden dipstick would suffice. Then off at a steady 40mph. The steering was delightfully vague so you just sort of aimed at where you were going. As the engine heated up that wonderful smell of hot oil drifted up from the holes in the firewall. The exhaust pipe came down hard against the firewall right beside the accelerator so Crispian was driving bare foot as only a thin sheet of metal was separating foot from exhaust 50mm away. The windscreen was open to provide the air conditioning. At the hills, the gearing was such that it was necessary to change down to second gear and chug up at 20mph. I was most impressed to see that we pulled over wherever possible to let following cars pass.

The roar of that 6 cylinder engine was real music to my ears and the forward view framed by two large chrome headlights was a joy to see. It took me back to the days of driving the 1923 Buick. Back at the clubhouse was another magic meal. Club Captain Terry had cooked the onions to perfection and similarly with the sausages and patties. Fleur's Broccoli and cashew nut salad was the best I have had. Ice cream, peaches and slice followed. Thanks Terry and Fleur for putting the run and meal on. I came home refilled with enthusiasm to get the 1930 Buick back on the road.

March Midweekers *by Jen Cole and Dennis Brown*

March's midweek run was to visit the home and memorabilia collection of Ron Jones, in Rotorua. After the usual meeting point at the clubrooms we head to Thomas Crescent and the interesting property of Ron and June Jones. Ron very kindly agreed to host us on a mild March morning despite being in the middle of packing everything as they had just sold the property. Ron is an interesting person, like us all, ageing, with an interesting life in the automotive industry.



As a mechanic and later, owning a car dealership, he has an obvious passion for the technology. Parked, pride of place in his garage, a 2012 Dodge Challenger. A powerful, menacing looking beast that is clearly designed to GO. After chatting over his Challenger, we were ushered into his 'room of memories'. Adorning walls and every shelf available, albums, photos, certificates and car parts associated with motor cars and competition from his earliest days of involvement.



A big thanks to Ralph for the venue suggestion and Ron and June for taking time from packing to share their home and stories. Following on from Ron & Junes place, Jen had organised a luncheon for us at BaseCamp Café at the The Secret Spot Hot tubs. What a wonderful lunch it was. Sadly only 11 of us participated but it was an animated and enjoyable experience. Thanks to those who made it, sorry for those that were unable.

Horopito Club Run 18th and 19th May 2024

Name of Driver _____

Name of Navigator _____

Phone no _____

Email address _____

Number in Crew (incl. Driver) _____

Vehicle Make _____

Model _____ Year _____

Number attending Smash Palace _____

Number attending Dinner @ Powderhorn _____

Number attending Tangiwai Memorial _____

Number attending National Army Museum _____

To help streamline getting into Smash Palace if we could deposit the \$10 into Rotorua VCC Branch account: Rotorua VCC 02-0412-0236263-00 using your surname as Ref.

Accommodation Ohakuni options:

Powderhorn Chateau: Ph 063858888

Ruapehu Mountain Motel: Ph 063858470

The Peaks Motor Inn: Ph 063859144

King Ohakune Accommodation: Ph 063858648

Snowman Lodge & Spa: Ph 063858600

Email Registration form to: hayden.duncan@live.com or Post to:

P.O Box 114

Ngongotaha

Rotorua 3041



Rotorua Vintage & Veteran Car Club
proudly present the



***The 43rd Annual
Central North Island
Swap Meet &
Car Show Spectacular***

Sunday, 14th July 2024

PARADISE VALLEY RACEWAY

7.00am - 2.00pm



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

**Admission - Seller's vehicle and driver \$10 per site
All others - \$5 per person (Accompanied children FREE)**



CLUB NIGHT - April 10th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1964 Vanden Plas Princess 1100

Followed by tea and coffee.

April Club Run Sunday, 14th April

Meet at the clubrooms at 10am for a cuppa and a biscuit. There are long scenic run and short run options to visit Alan and George Judd at Te Waerenga Road. The long run approx. 75 km of rural winding roads taking 1.5 hours in scenic mode (1 hour in Targa mode). The short run is 23 km directly there taking around 35 minutes. Both runs are non-competitive so enjoy the drive. Bring your own chair, lunch and cuppa, there will be hot water and coffee on site.

April Midweekers Wednesday, 24 April

Les & Thelma Forward have kindly arranged a scenic midweek drive on some less driven roads with points of interest and lunch at a café.

Meet at Te Teko at 10.30am (parking area with toilets at the entrance to Te Teko).

Te Teko is 60km from Rotorua, with some restrictive speed limits as well as some areas of minor road works so allow at least one hour travel time. Total distance for the day approximately 180km.

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
Apr 2024	10	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	7
	14	Club Run	10am	Clubrooms	7
	24	Midweekers	10.30am	Te Teko	7
May 2024	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	18-19	Horopito overnightr	early!	TBA	5
	TBA	Midweekers	TBA	TBA	
June 2024	12	Club Night & AGM	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	16	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	TBA	Midweekers	TBA	TBA	
July 2024	10	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	14	Swap Meet	early!	Paradise Valley	6
	TBA	Midweekers	TBA	TBA	

www.rvcc.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.

March BBQ Run



March BBQ Run

