

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

APRIL 2017



WE'RE NOW ON FACEBOOK !

www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

Taupo 50th Anniversary Rally



SIDE CURTAINS - April 2017

The magazine of the ROTORUA
VINTAGE AND VETERAN CAR CLUB

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Sun Alliance Agency Number: HO 0300146

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

OFFICERS

Chairperson - David Tomlinson

Secretary - Dennis Whimp

Treasurer - Terry Fitzpatrick

Club Captain - Angie Brunton

Asst. Club Captain - Kevin Scott

Committee

Lois Thompson

Terry Wadsworth

Steve De Jeu

Darryl Stretch

Roger Nelson

John Peters

Patron - Bob Mowbray

Mid Weekers - Bob Mackay

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Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

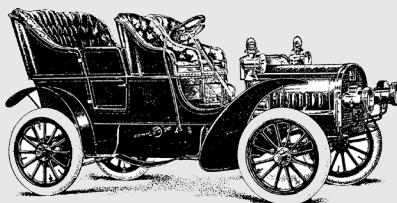
Librarian - Roger Couchman

Asst Librarian - John Kirkland

Cards/Flowers - Doreen Green

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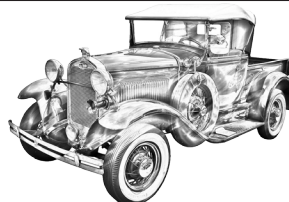
Cover Photos

Front - Bob Mackay's Morrie pickup

Back - Taupo 50th Anniversary Rally

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 2017

by David Tomlinson



The bad summer weather continued right up until mid-March, finally giving us sun without wind for the last two weeks of the month. I don't think I have been to so many car events over a summer with wet weather at all of them.

My month started with me and my older two kids going to the Brit-Euro car show in Auckland, then the Taupo Rally, then hosting the Chairman's Run plus of course club night and our committee meeting. At the March meeting I had one of my cars in the room, a 1993 Bentley Turbo R, which has an interesting history, including possibly being the fastest car driven from Bluff to Cape Reinga using the standard ferry, and starting at midnight. Sadly it arrived at the final destination at 12.14am, just failing in its attempt to do the length of the country in a "calendar day". It is possible in a 2-3 years I may have a go at rectifying this in the same car.

This month's club night will feature a talk from John Reid of the Geyserland 4x4 club, and our car in the room will appropriately be a 4x4 too, a 1953 Land Rover Series 1. Our May club night will of course be our AGM.

Regarding the AGM, we have at least one retirement from committee forecast, and it was great last year to have so many people put their name forward for committee positions. I would hope we get the same enthusiasm again, but can I please ask two small things if you are able to serve your branch. One - please attend the 11 committee meetings between AGMs. Two - please be involved in the committee meetings, and vote on all business transacted, whether it be for or against.

Other than that it is not arduous being a committee member, and it is essential to have a motivated committee to keep the branch interesting and active. There is a notice of the AGM and a committee nomination

form elsewhere in this issue, and nomination forms are available on request from the Branch Secretary.

April's club run is set back a week later than usual to avoid Easter, and it will be the Night Run. It will be a Saturday night run, with dinner served, then first car away, then dessert at the end of the run. More details elsewhere in this issue.

If you have anything to say about the running of the club or any of our activities at club nights or otherwise, please come to the AGM and have your say. The last two AGMs have both had challenging situations arise, and I will address these further in my annual report to the AGM.

I spent the last half of March (successfully) rebuilding my Essex's starter motor, and my 1959 Bedford J1 passed its warrant with no warnings, and has been photographed and will be storied in a coffee table book called "Vintage Trucks" which will hit bookshelves in October, so I am feeling a little proud at the moment too.

The 2 P's RUN

(Promoting & Prize-giving)
June 18th 2017

See and be seen on a leisurely local run
which will end up at the Distinction Hotel
for High Tea
and Prize-giving.

More details in the MAY side curtains.



FROM THE SECRETARY

by
Dennis Whimp



Passing Lane - Trevor Bennett

Our sympathies go to Cynthia and the family on the recent passing away of one of our members, Trevor Bennett. Trevor and Cynthia were active in the club a number of years ago with their 1956 Daimler Conquest. They then went motor homing for around ten years before rejoining the club in 2013 as joint members. Trevor's funeral service was held on Wed. 29th March. We will miss his smiling face.

Updated Membership List

I have just received the latest membership list for all of our 36 branches. What is noticeable is the number of out of date emails phone numbers and vehicles. If you have changed your contacts or vehicles in the past 10 years, can you please email me the details and I will forward them on to National.

Email me at dawhimp@xtra.co.nz

Vintage car, tractor and stationary engine Auction - Matamata

Here is a link to an auction in Matamata on 23rd April 2017. It is a deceased estate auction of gigantic size, of tools, collectables, farm implements, vintage vehicle parts, small motors and scrap (day 1) plus (day 2) vintage cars, trucks motorbikes, tractors and stationary engines. Included is the oldest running Ford in NZ, a 1906 Model N. I thought that one could only dream of having a shed like this.

www.abauctions.co.nz/auctions/2017/4/23/estate-of-bill-troughton-day-two

From the VCC

The Vintage Car Club of New Zealand is creating a number of new online features that will be of advantage to members.

The first one is now up and running. At a recent meeting of the Club Executive it was suggested branch monthly magazines and newsletters were made available for reading on the Vintage Car Club of New Zealand website.

Magazines are now able to be read by going to <http://www.vcc.org.nz> and clicking on “News from our Branches” on the menu down the left side of the home page. Then click on the magazine you want to read.

Each magazine will be posted as soon as it is received and will appear in the alphabetical order of the branches. The current monthly magazine for each branch will be removed once the current months is received.

There are a number of magazines already on the site. You can read them at vcc.org.nz/news-from-our-branches

Ross Holden

Communications & Marketing Officer

Vintage Car Club of New Zealand (Inc.)

MYSTERY CARS FROM LAST MONTH'S ISSUE OF SIDE CURTAINS



*1964 Sunbeam Venezia by
Carrozeria Touring*



1948 Buick Streamliner

TAUPO 50th ANNIVERSARY RALLY

Sean took a day off school and I played hookey from work on the Friday before the rally, and we left Rotorua around 1pm to take a slow trip down in the 1929 Essex, hoping to have only light traffic on a slow trip down and to beat the forecast bad weather. We got just past the Murupara turn off when a loud mechanical clacking came from under the bonnet. Stopping at the side of the road I could see it was the cooling fan hitting the bottom radiator hose and the noise was the blade just touching the end of the hose clamp. I limped slowly to the Gull petrol stop about 1km further south and thankfully managed to borrow a large crescent off a passing motorist and set the fan back in place. It had cut about 1mm into the rubber, but appeared not to have caused a leak. The Good Samaritan turned out to be our guest speaker at the April club night, John Reid! John let me keep the crescent for the weekend and Fleur returned it the following week.

We made it down to Taupo and filled up the petrol tank and settled into the Holiday Park across the road from the Rally dinner venue (Taupo Golf Club) and just down the road a few hundred metres from the Taupo VCC club rooms. The forecast heavy rain held back, and it was difficult getting Sean out of the pool to collect our rally packs. It was quickly back to the holiday park and Sean got straight back in the pool (which is licensed, and has a bar in the pool!).

About 10pm on the Friday night the heavy rain started, and just continued all night. The Essex started fine in the wet and we lined up with about a dozen vintage and veteran entrants and just over 40 other cars. We were about 15th car away and as we turned out of the club rooms to start the rally noticed a Model T pickup that started about 10 cars ahead of us at the side of the road, and a police car pulling up. It wasn't until later we found out it had been hit hard in the rear by a car whose driver had to be taken away for breath testing, and the Model T ended up at the lunch venue on a trailer. There were two course options, 160km and 220km. As there were no fuel stops on either course, and I have no idea what the Essex's range is, we did the shorter

course, and arrived at the lunch stop minus a few answers and silent checks. The “short course” morning section went north to Reporoa then west towards Kinloch. The lunch was at the same country hall that our Sulphur City Rally used in 2015. Most of the short course cars were back before the first of the long course cars arrived, and after a good lunch we left on the afternoon course which headed back to the VCC rooms via Acacia Bay and a drive through the town. The rain was a little lighter in the afternoon, but still steady. Once we handed in our paperwork it was straight to the nearest petrol station to fill up, then Sean hopped back in the big heated pool again ahead of the prize giving dinner.

At the dinner Rotorua branch members fared poorly in the competitive results, but Doug and Doreen Green were presented with a prize for being the first entry, and there were some raffles at the end in which Rotorua members won a fair few prizes. Along with the Greens, other Rotorua branch members who took part were Evan and Wyn Dorrington, Cliff and Shona Wickham, Denis and Pat Burr and Ken and Lyn Rowson.

Sunday morning was a slow trip back in heavy rain (it never stopped!) to help get cars away for the Chairman’s Run at the Rotorua club rooms and just short of Rotorua my window wiper arm fell off! I managed to salvage it undamaged and continue on without it. After the Chairman’s Run was over I finally got the Essex home and the very next day the starter motor fell to bits! Luckily it waited until all the important travel was over.

Despite the trying conditions it was a good rally with challenging questions and ornery silent checks that hid themselves well. Sean and I didn’t get lost, and other than one hairy braking incident got through unscathed. As far as I am aware, other than the unfortunate Model T, all starters finished, including a vintage Durant, which was driven in the first edition of the Taupo Rally in 1968 by the same driver in this year’s rally. Surely a very rare occurrence.

Midweek Run - 22nd March

As a relatively long run to north of Katikati we did not meet for the 'normal' for morning tea at the club rooms but instead met outside the Pyes Pa School. Meeting at this point works well as those wishing to still partake in a cuppa can either bring a thermos or go ahead to Café Four14. It certainly removes any convoy of older cars holding up regular high speed traffic on this narrow state highway.

Our next stop was about 4 miles north of Katikati at the 'Long Table Café' who were ready for us with the long table set for 22. A great little café with great menu offering fast friendly service. Following lunch it was just over the road to visit Trevor Gordon who many of our members know. Trevor is one of the old breed automotive engineers, has a very large shed, where he rebuilds just about anything American, be it an engine, gearbox, differential or a car body, he does everything himself except the painting. There were a number of projects under action and an older restoration along with a recently modified Ford to view. Twenty two people attended the day in 9 club cars and 3 modern. Some of the club cars are starting to look very modern, or is it that some of us are getting older, probably the latter when our self-appointed club photographer brings a bag of expensive lenses and no camera.

Bob Mackay

PS: We are all getting older and somewhat forgetful, I forget to ask someone to write the monthly report and everyone else forgets to offer.

Wanted To Buy

Lucas Windscreen wiper motor to suit Morris Minor (also found on other British cars)

Bob Mackay ph 07-332 3849 or 021-595 185

Hawkes Bay VCC Auction

HB VCC Branch are having a large auction of automobilia raising funds for the family of the late Dick Goodall, a VCC member. Catalogue and some photos can be downloaded at: www.hbvcc.org.nz

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 2017 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 2017

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

MYSTERY VEHICLES

The upper car has a clue to its country of origin, it is from the 1960s.
The lower car will look familiar, and it is from the 1970s.



NEXT CLUB NIGHT - April 12th

Car In The Room: 1953 Land Rover Series 1

Guest Speaker: John Reid - *Geyserland 4x4 Club*

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits

AGM / CLUB NIGHT - May 10th

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits

Upcoming Midweek Runs *by Bob Mackay*

Midweek Run 26th April 2017 – A Country Café Run

Meet at the club rooms at the earlier time of 9.45am for morning tea with a departure time of 10.15am.

The route is a little over 50 miles, but fairly slow in places, it will take us through some less travelled roads, with very contrasting roads and landscapes. The drive will provide lake, farm, forest, native bush, urban views as well as a section of very English country side. Lunch will be at a country café after which we will all make our own way home.

Library News *by Roger Couchman*

The following books are new additions to the Library -

- 1 Cars 1930-2000 The Birth of the Modern Car
- 2 100 Years of Motoring in New Zealand
- 3 The Hulton Getty Picture Collection Cars
- 4 Classic Cars of New Zealand Vol 2
- 5 Encyclopedia of Classic Cars
- 6 Clarkson Motorworld

Kindly donated by Des and Angie Brunton

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
April 2017	12	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	22	Night Run	5.00pm	Clubrooms	
	26	Midweekers Run	9.45am	Clubrooms	11
May 2017	10	Club Night / AGM	7.30pm	Clubrooms	9
	14	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	24	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
June 2017	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	18	Run & Prize Giving	TBA	TBA	
	28	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
July 2017	9	Swap Meet & Show	7.00am	Paradise Valley	
	12	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	26	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
August 2017	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	23	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
	26	Sulphur City Rally	TBA	TBA	

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.

www.rotoruaVintageCarClub.org.nz

The committee endeavours to have the branch website meet the needs of our members, and to promote our branch nationally, and to potential new members. If you have any suggestions for additions or improvements to the website please contact David Tomlinson.

March Midweekers



