

# SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the  
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND  
VETERAN CAR CLUB

APRIL 2018



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[www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz](http://www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz)

# Chairman's Run, March 2018



# SIDE CURTAINS - April 2018

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

**Treasurer** - Terry Fitzpatrick

**Club Captain** - vacant

**Asst. Club Captain** - Kevin Scott

### Committee

Bob Mackay

Roger Nelson

John Peters

Lois Thompson

Terry Wadsworth

Cliff Wickham

**Mid Weekers** - Bob Mackay

**Side Curtains Editor** - David Tomlinson

rvcc.editor@gmail.com

**Beaded Wheels** - Ronald Mayes

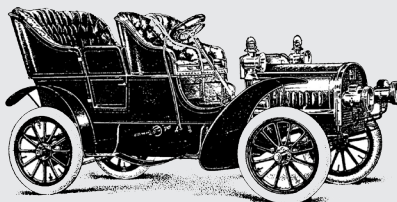
**Librarian** - Roger Couchman

**Asst Librarian** - John Kirkland

**Cards/Flowers** - Doreen Green

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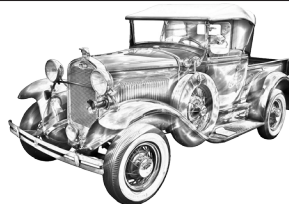
### Cover Photos

Front - Studebaker radiator mascot

Back - Studebaker Nationals 2018

## 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 2018

*by David Tomlinson*



I perhaps better start off by announcing that in March I asked my partner Fleur if she would take my hand in matrimony, and after checking out many jewellery brochures and selecting a ring, she has agreed.

At our March Club Night we hosted 5 visitors from BoP branch, including VCC North Island Club Captain Kaaren Smylie, who presented Peter Stanaway with his 50 Year badge on behalf of the VCC. Later in the evening we had a very good video presentation of a 30 day Route 66 tour 3 couples from BOP branch did last year, travelling west from Chicago to California in rented late model Mustang cars. The presentation was informative and often amusing, and afterwards members got to ask questions of two of the couples that took part in the tour.

On the following Sunday the Chairman's Run was held in the morning, starting from my workshop in Ngongotaha due to the Walk For Life using the Neil Hunt Park carpark. We had 16 vehicles take part, including 3 cars not seen on club runs before, a '65 Mustang, a Mk2 Jag and a 1950s Vauxhall Velox. At the conclusion of the run there was a light lunch and I think all went away happy, although one troublesome Ford V8 did have to "come and go" at the end lest the vehicle refused to re-start.

I travelled to Christchurch in March to the half yearly VCC Executive Meeting which had an ambitious agenda for the time available, and in the end did not cover all planned topics. There was further discussion on the form of future National Rallies, and it was resolved that from now on the Easter Rally would be held only in one Island each year, alternating between the North and South bi-annually. It was also clear that in recent times numbers at major VCC events was dwindling and that thought would be put into how to get people back involved again in numbers.

Our April club night will feature a very special modern car in the room, and a guest speaker. This car is a very unusual model, and it will definitely be worth coming along on our first "dark" club night of the year.

April's Night Run will be held on Sunday, 15 April, plotted by last year's winner Ronald Mayes. Dinner will be served before the run with dessert

to follow at \$10 per person. Please contact Ronald or Lois for catering purposes. Be at the club rooms by 5.30pm for dinner with the run being held between the main and dessert courses.

Our 2018 AGM is only a month away, please if you are interested in standing for committee, or wanting to put business forward, let me or a committee member know so we can make sure you get paperwork in on time. We are looking for a Club Captain and Midweek Co-Ordinator. Full training and assistance given! There is a notice of the AGM in this issue, and a nomination form for committee positions.

Over the next few months we will have a club run in May, a run in June with our annual prize giving at the end, then we have our Swap Meet in July and the Sulphur City Rally in August. We have also been approached by Taupo branch about the idea of holding a joint run in November with at least 4 VCC branches, where we all end up at the same venue for a picnic lunch. I think this idea is excellent, and we will work on this.

Getting back to this year's AGM, if you do feel you can put a little bit more into the club, please do not feel intimidated by putting your name forward for committee or one of the vacant (or indeed any) positions. The branch is only what we make of it, and fresh ideas are valuable. Unless someone comes forward and puts their name down for Chairman I will be prepared to stand one more time, but this would mean a fourth year in the role and I will definitely want to step down at the end of that term. I will still want to be helpful and will be happy to keep operating our online presence and editing the magazine. Being on committee only takes about 20-30 hours out of your year, with 11 committee nights that usually take 90 minutes or so. If you have any questions about the committee or its activities, just ask me or our secretary Dennis.

Also in March I spent two quite lengthy sessions with a journalist and a photographer, and I understand I will be a feature of the May issue of NZ Life and Leisure magazine, focussing on my passion for classic cars and in particular the first Rolls-Royce I bought back in 2013.

Speaking of such things, I joking told Fleur's sister a couple of weeks ago that I had almost managed to go a whole six months without buying a classic car, but alas that did not last. As a result I am considering rationalising my "fleet", and I have two cars for sale in our BUY/SELL pages. If and when I do move these cars on, my collection will be all British and I am promising myself no more purchases this year!

# FROM THE SECRETARY

by  
*Dennis Whimp*



## **Swap meet. Sunday 8th July. Our main fundraiser.**

The branch costs us around \$12,000 to \$13,000 a year to run with the two biggest expense items being the clubrooms and the magazine. Rates, insurance, power and gas account for over half of this. Our branch levies bring in less than \$1,000 per annum so we are very reliant on other funding streams with the swap meet being the main one.

A number of key members have advised us they will not be here over that period so we will be needing all the woman and man power we can muster. So please diary this date. Help is needed everywhere, but mainly on the gates.

## **Updated Membership List**

We have received from the National office an updated membership list for our Rotorua Branch that includes members names, phone numbers and vehicles. This has been emailed to us and I can forward this to any members who would like a copy. There are also national lists, two of which that have all the members by branch and also by surname. A third list is by vehicle manufacturer with the owners for each year listed. This is very useful if you are looking for help from similar model vehicles to your own. We are expecting a hard copy and will put it in the library. I can also email this if you would like a copy.

## **VIC Certifiers**

We have added Terry Fitzpatrick as a branch VIC certifier. He joins Doug Green who continues in this role. Cliff is no longer able to carry out these duties. He has done a great job of ensuring that the forms are filled out correctly and the photos are the correct size. Thanks Cliff.

## Library Shelves

We can't complain that we don't get anything for our Council Rates. When the temporary library shifted out from the old Van Dyks Building, they had a big sale of redundant shelving and books. Ronald and I were down there looking at books when we realised that a lot of the original 30 year old shelving was to be given away. I backed the RAV up to the doors and we now have enough shelving to go along the empty wall in our library.

The shelves may not match the fine shelving we have on the other side, but you can't get them any cheaper than free. Once they are erected, our librarians will be able to get a number of books out that are stored in obscure cupboards around the building.

## Window stickers for your club eligible vehicles.

I have the gold winged "Vintage Car Club of NZ Rotorua" window stickers for your club eligible vehicle. They are 12 centimetres long and go on the outside of the glass. It is a great way to publicise the branch. The committee resolved to make these available to branch members at no cost so see me if you want one.

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## Studebaker Nationals 2018

The Studebaker Drivers Club of NZ held their national gathering in Rotorua over Easter, and a few branch members were involved in judging at their Concours. They even had lunch at our clubrooms on one of the days. There are more photos from this event in this issue.



## Farewell to Denis Burr

In February, we lost one of our most jovial and dedicated branch members. It was with great shock and sadness that we farewelled Denis on the 19th February, knowing that in December he had changed the wheel on the 1930 Dodge during the Posh Picnic run.



Denis was one of those members that every club needs lots of. Always happy to participate, help and to lead, always with a wry sense of humour and always with Pat who often was more humorous than he was. He had a knack of making friends and keeping in touch with them. Among them were his early teenage mates. One of them farmed in Tirau and on a visit in 1997 Denis and Pat went for a spin around the farm in a lovely Model A Ford. They then went as passengers in the same Model A on a Waikato Vintage car club rally. Denis was smitten. Over to the Te Puke Autobarn and a beautifully restored 1930 model A open tourer was purchased. With this, Denis and Pat joined the Rotorua branch in 1998.

Never one to just belong, Denis quickly became involved in all aspects of the club, being a committee member, Club Captain, President, rally organiser, tail-end Charlie and a very keen rally entrant. He and Pat rallied all over NZ, including taking part in many North Island Club Captain's Tours.

As is often the case, collecting can become a passion and when you have space, you can build big sheds. The Model A was joined by a Mark 2 Jaguar 3.4 but that was not to his liking so off it went to be replaced by a 1930 Dodge Sedan, then a number of vehicles, mainly Dodges, with the favourite being the 1954 108C-D pick-up truck. But it wasn't just old Dodges that the passion extended to. His town runabout was a late model Dodge Ram and he had a similar vehicle in the States to tow the fifth wheeler. For latter club runs, there was the 1981 Mercedes Benz 280CE where Pat said the air conditioning was much better than the Model A.

Tractors were also a great source of interest to Denis and these he could work on and restore himself. He hauled old Farmall tractors in from all over the country and was an equally passionate member of the Rotorua Tractor and Machinery Club. He had two very big sheds, one for cars and one for tractors. They were located down Farmall Lane.

We will all miss Denis's friendship, humour and enthusiasm. Our sympathies and thoughts go out to Pat and the family.

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

The Branch AGM will be held at 7.30pm on 9th May 2018 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 - 9th May 2018**

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 .....

## March Midweekers Run *by Bob Mackay*

With the run being close to Easter only a small number took part but I can be pleased to report everyone drove a club car. We met at the Ngongotaha Fire Station and drove the Thermal Highway to the Maungatautari turn off. We then drove the back roads to Hamilton Gardens for lunch via Mystery Creek, stopping at Karapiro International Sports Centre on the way. After lunch we wandered round the gardens, having previously only ever stopped at the gardens to visit the café it was quite different to what I expected. Apologies to anyone who missed an enjoyable day due to possible confusion as to our meeting place as the Coming Wvents section in the March Side Curtains showed the meeting place as the club rooms.

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The photo above is from a postcard depicting Rotorua Airport in the late 1960s. An NAC DC-3 is loading or unloading, and there is a Holden ute in the foreground, an old Bedford SB3 bus at the terminal and lurking at the top left are a Mark III Zephyr, a VW Beetle and a very old open cab fire appliance. The newest car is possibly the red Valiant at left in the foreground. Note the security in place at the time!

# BUY - SELL - SWAP

**For Sale:** Valvoline ATF Type F automatic transmission fluid, 2 x 4 litre bottles, new and unopened, for Ford and Borg Warner Type 35 transmissions and European and Japanese transmissions specifying Type F or Type G fluids. Bargain at sale price \$35 each.

New Bosch GL769 Contact Set and GL179 Condenser for 1970s BMC and Triumph cars, \$10 each.

Ronald Mayes, ph 347 8490 or [randgmayes@gmail.com](mailto:randgmayes@gmail.com)

**Wanted To Rent:** Lock up garage space for small car when it returns from the paint shop and until I can make garage alterations to accommodate it. (I thought of widening front doorway and parking it on carpet in hall but house management not keen on that idea..) Ronald Mayes ph 347 8490 or [randgmayes@gmail.com](mailto:randgmayes@gmail.com)

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**For Sale:** 1929 Essex Super Six 4 door sedan, almost certainly NZ new, RHD, pedals in modern positions, double de-clutch 3 speed manual, 2.5 litre 6 cyl engine, new 6V battery, electric start, 4 wheel drum brakes. Steel frame body, wood spoke wheels, new WoF at end of March, presents and drives very well for 89 years old, \$14,000



Contact David Tomlinson - 027 412 8227 or [davetnz@gmail.com](mailto:davetnz@gmail.com)

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**For Sale:** 1977 Mercedes-Benz 350SL roadster, imported from UK in 1985, RHD, 3.5 litre V8 engine, 3 speed auto, power steering. Factory alloy wheels plus original steel wheels with hub caps. New tyres less than 2000km ago. Soft top in excellent order (new one fitted around 2010), hard top included. Hub caps & hard top matching colour to body, light metallic green. New headrest covers. Has folding rear seats with 2 seat belts. New WoF in April, rego until April 2019, \$15,000.



Contact David Tomlinson - 027 412 8227 or [davetnz@gmail.com](mailto:davetnz@gmail.com)

# 50 Year Badge Award - Peter Stanaway

*by Dennis Whimp*

When in 1965 Peter crashed his mother's car, he needed transport, so for 40 pounds he purchased two original 1927 Essex's. A friend suggested he join the Auckland Vintage Car Club which he did in December 1965. As well as being the everyday transport, the 4 door was rallied extensively including many Hunua 100 rallies and the 1980 International held in Rotorua. The Essex was sold in the early 80's and is still in Auckland.

In the 1970s Peter gathered bits of a 1914 Briscoe and although he never completed this car, he was member number 8 of the Auckland branch of the Horseless Carriage Club. Many other cars passed through his stable including a 1928 Murphy bodied Hudson saloon, 1923 Buick tourer, 1960 Rambler, '67 Chev Impala, '78 Cadillac Brougham, and a much rallied 1939 Plymouth sedan that was swapped for a 1962 Pontiac Starchief.

Work commitments saw Peter relocate to Morrinsville from 1969 to 1971, then back to Auckland until 1986, then Rotorua for 10 years, back to Auckland for 10 years and finally settling in Rotorua.

He has been on the Auckland and Rotorua branch committees, was the Waikato secretary for one year and was the Auckland Editor in the early days.

The social life at the various branches, the parts sheds and doing mechanical repairs are all part of the enjoyment that has kept Peter in the old car movement for over 50 years.

*Kaaren Smylie, VCC  
North Island Club  
Captain, presented the  
badge and certificate to  
Peter on behalf of  
the VCC.*



# CLUB NIGHT - April 11th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In Room: Very special surprise modern car & speaker

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits

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## Night Run - Sunday, 15th April 2018

Be at the clubrooms by 5:30pm for the first course of your dinner. Be sure to bring a good torch (daylight saving has gone and there will be no moonlight), a clipboard for the instructions and a pen to answer the questions and tick off the instructions. The run will be fairly short (I am calling it the Round About Rotorua Run) and includes a little straight line navigation and reasonable length runs between the short question sections. You should be back in the clubrooms within an hour for your dessert.

Please let Lois Thompson (new number - 345 5767) or Ronald (347 8490) know you are coming or tell us at this Wednesday's meeting so the catering can be organised. The dinner is only \$10 per head and will be too good to miss!

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## Upcoming Midweek Runs *by Bob Mackay*

*Thursday April 27th (Midweek Mystery Run)*

Due to Anzac Day the midweek run will be on Thursday 27th.

We will meet at the club rooms for morning tea at 10am. We will have a café lunch in a neighbouring town.

Following lunch it is hoped to visit a small collection of off-road vehicles which is subject to our prospective host being home from an extensive off-road adventure. He should have a few good stories. Please note that we will all make a gold coin donation for this visit which will be collected before leaving the club rooms.

# COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
April	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	15	Night Run	5.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	27	Midweekers Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
May	9	AGM / Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	7
	13	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	23	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
June	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	Run & Prize Giving	TBA	TBA	
	27	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
July	4	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	8	Swap Meet	7am	Paraside Valley	
	25	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
August	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	25	Sulphur City Rally	8.30am	Clubrooms	
	29	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	

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## 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.

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[www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz](http://www.rotoruvintagecarclub.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 check the branch Facebook page regularly too.

# Studebaker Nationals, Rotorua, Easter 2018



# Studebaker Nationals, Easter 2018

