

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

AUGUST 2023



WE ARE ON FACEBOOK !

www.rvvcc.org.nz

July Car In The Room



SIDE CURTAINS - August 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 - Hayden Duncan

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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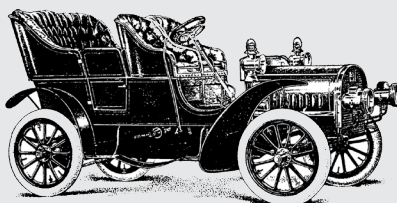
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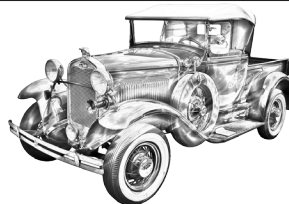
Cover Photos

Front - Central North Island Swap Meet

Back - Central North Island Swap Meet

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

- July 2023

by David Tomlinson



Short and sweet this month, we had quite a lot of content sent through for this issue.

The Swap Meet was held in reasonable weather, not too cold, but a bit of drizzle from around 9am until 11am. Feedback from vendors was not as positive as last year, but some big tickets sales did occur, and we had a full car park. While the final result is not yet known, it will have returned a worthwhile surplus to the branch, I thank all members who helped out.

This month we had planned to do a small car show as part of the National VCC Day, but alas it fell apart a little during the planning stages and will not proceed. Many other nearby branches are putting on events if members want to take part.

Our main event this month is our annual Sulphur City Rally. We already have a good number of entries, but the more the merrier. An entry form is in this issue, and it will be our usual great country roads experience and superior lunch stop.

We will have a mid-weekers event in September, and our club run in that month will feature tea and coffee with members of the North Shore branch as they pass through Rotorua.

The car in the room for August will be something a bit different, a 1994 Toyota Soarer 2.5GT with a bit of the “boy racer” about it, it will be very interesting to see.

Vale - David Taylor *by Ronald Mayes*

Former member David Emile Mynott Taylor (b. 1 July 1932) passed away peacefully on 29 July. He had been a long-time member of our branch and had organised many interesting speakers for our club nights.

He had owned 3 club-eligible vehicles; a Ford Model A roadster, the subject of a serious restoration, a 1922 Ford TT truck and a 1960 Mercedes-Benz 190SL roadster (“a Christmas present for his wife”, he said!) and took a keen interest in the history of the Ford company.

I had known him since 1971, when he commenced work as the second pathologist at Rotorua Hospital. He had first worked, after graduation, in general practice on the North Island East Coast and then specialised in pathology, spending time in the USA before coming to Rotorua.

A few years later he and Principal Pathologist Dr Ron. Ensor opened the first private (but government funded) medical laboratory in Rotorua, taking a few of the hospital lab. staff and all of the general practitioners’ work but both still worked half-time at the hospital and the lab. soon recovered its former workload.. The private lab. was sold many years later and David retired from the hospital position in the early 2000s.

On one occasion at work, I happened to be walking past the hospital fleet service garage. In it was his M-B 190SL, with David busy working on its kingpins. He was still wearing his lab. coat which, like his hands, was in many places no longer white. For some time the Model TT truck was also stored there until the space was otherwise required.

David was an interesting character with whom to converse, with his very wide range of interests. On the club Spring Tour to Wanganui a few years ago, when the name was being changed to Whanganui, he said he had studied Maori dialects. He said that the original inhabitants there were like Cockneys - they dropped their “h”s, so “Wanganui” it should have remained!

We extend our sympathy to Rata and their family.



Studebaker Hill Holder Rally

by Neville Harper

Carol and I recently attended the annual Studebaker Drivers Club Hill Holder Rally, this time in Tauranga. The weekend was organised by Paul van den Hoven (Jack Hoven's son) and Susie, and we were celebrating Rosie Studebaker's 100th birthday. Jack Hoven had written a book about Rosie Studebaker.

We had 12 Studebakers and 26 members attend. They came from as far away as Auckland and Waipukurau. The road was closed between Napier and Taupo on Friday so they had to go down to Fielding and back up State highway 1 to get North. They were on the road for 7 hours.

The rally on Saturday took us around Tauranga and the up Pyes Pa Road and up Oripa Road. We turned onto No 2 Road which basically runs alongside Te Mata Road which comes out in Te Puke. This runs through beautiful native forest and has spectacular views out to the coast. We went out to Maketu Spit and eventually ended at our lunch stop at Osteria Italia, Paengaroa.

After being fed and watered we made our way back to the boat launching ramp in Tauranga for a group photo. We were 1 car short but they turned up later on.

Saturday night we dressed up in vintage clothing to celebrate Rosie's hundredth birthday and went to the Nautilus Buffet Restaurant and Bar for dinner and Susie had made a beautiful 100th birthday cake. After a fun night the winners were announced the cake was cut and we all had a piece.

We headed back to our hotel as we didn't know who had won the Super rugby final and watched it on Prime. There weren't to many Crusader supporters.

Sunday morning we met at Raft cafe for breakfast and after saying our good byes we were on our way home again. Another great weekend with a great bunch of people.



July Car In The Room

1978 MGB GT *by Gary Gerard*

Produced from 1964 to 1980. This later model is typically known as the “rubber bumper” model from 1974 onwards. The change from the previous chrome bumper models was driven by USA market requirements for low speed impact protection. They also decided the headlights were too low so to overcome that MG raised the suspension of all models by 1 inch. This car has since been returned to the original height.

I first became aware of the car in 1998 when a consultant at my work decided to buy a classic car and do it up as his daily driver. He had been annoyed at the low trade in price offered for his 4 year old Honda. Over the next two years he worked with us and on each visit would update me on the car's progress. I eventually saw it in the flesh almost completed and knew pretty much all about the car. The consultant completed his work and I never saw him again.

About six years later I was out with friends and met up with their friend who was quite excited as he had just bought a car at Turners. He said it was an MGB so a few more questions later I realised it was the same car. It turned out he had no mechanical ability and over time it became obvious he wasn't looking after it so I said “if you ever want to sell it please call me”. Several years later got a note in the letterbox offering me the car. A deal was done and I drove it home.

The overheating he had been trying to fix was quickly dealt with by re-coring the radiator, replacing the thermostat and temperature sender. Although it was now reliable, it was obvious the consultant's restoration didn't extend to the mechanicals (except brakes after he apparently rear-ended someone).

At 139,000 original miles (224,000kms) it was getting tired so after a couple of years at about 144,000mls I decided start a re-build of the full drivetrain, suspension and steering.

The engine went to Lynn Rogers Motors in Howick, Auckland who were well known for classic BMC “A” and “B” series performance engines. I decided I would only be doing this once so ticked a lot of option boxes to up the performance (now 1950cc/120 Hp up from 1800cc / 92Hp) and give it high durability.

Now 25,000kms later it keeps up with modern traffic and runs like new. I also added a pre-lube system, which pressurizes the oil galleries before starting, and a fully electronic “123” distributor (zero maintenance!). I made up a cold air system to give a bit more oxygen into the carbs and have since replaced the factory exhaust manifold with stainless steel wrapped headers. Gearbox, overdrive and diff were all rebuilt as well as new suspension with a telescopic shock upgrade plus new steering rack and column.

The new engine was broken in on the dyno which was quite exciting to watch as a first timer but a bit scary as after an initial run up to temperature and a rest overnight, they quickly had it up to 6000rpm and several full power runs. I guess what doesn't kill you makes you stronger? Now good to go but after a couple of years the paint, now about 17 years old, was starting to look a bit tired. I asked around a bit and met up with a restoration team in Howick who suggested around \$30K if gave them a bare shell. NOT A CHANCE!

This is a car for driving so I didn't want to be too scared to damage the paint so ultimately found people in Cambridge who did it in their spare time for a modest budget. A reasonable job but driveable. We painted the rubber bumpers in body colour which I think improves the look. Aftermarket kits are available to return to the earlier “classic” look and many do this. We're happy with ours.

Unfortunately the painters broke the windscreen on re-fitting and we had to pick up the car from Smith & Smith, Hamilton. On the run home all the gauges stopped and eventually the car stopped at Bombay. Electrics were all wet from the painters clean down. No damage and all working well since drying out. Still enjoying it after nearly 16 years of ownership.

Branch Prize Giving 2023

Summit Cup (Most Rallied Vintage) – Bill & Adelai Skelton

Skelton Fleet Trophy (Most Rallied Post Vintage)

David Tomlinson

Trevor Burns Trophy (Most Rallied Post-War Vintage)

Les Martin

Kiwi Cup (Most Rallied Post 1960) – Ronald Mayes

Ken & Lynn Rowson Trophy P80 - Pat Burr

McGill Trophy (Night Run) – Michael Thorne & Robin Elliott

Johnson Trophy (Club Captains Run) – David and Alex Tomlinson

Mowbray Cup (BBQ Run) – Ken and Jude Thomas

Cliff & Shona Wickham Trophy (Chairman's Run)

Terry Wadsworth & Lynda Sheath

Lakeland Ford Trophy – (Most Rallied Ford)

Kevin & Maryann Scott

Norman Honour Trophy (Lady Navigator) – Adelai Skelton

Harry Lapwood Cup (Male Navigator) – Alex Tomlinson

Caulfield Cup (Novice Member – less 2 years in Club)

Hayden and Patrick Duncan

Mathias Cup (Most Aggregate Points for Year) – David Tomlinson

Anglis Cup (contribution to the branch) – Maryann Scott

BOP Branch Daffodil Rally Details



Daffodil Rally for Cancer

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST 2023



Everyone Welcome
No matter what kind of vehicle you drive

Proudly supporting the
Cancer Society
Te Kāhui Akepekupukupuku o Aotearoa

It's the Vintage Car Club's National Day and across New Zealand, hundreds of vehicles will be on the road or on display to raise money for your local Cancer Society

\$10

vehicle entry fee - all fees donated to our local Cancer Society

Come Join Us

10am-1pm • 29 Cliff Road, Tauranga.
A public car display at BOP Vintage Car Club grounds followed by Daffodil Day Rally

Sausage Sizzle • Coffee Cart • Food truck

Gold coin donation for viewing. Rally briefing at 1pm with the run starting at 1.30pm. Run finishes at a local historical hall. \$5 pp for afternoon tea with all monies to be donated to our local Cancer Society

Event contact : Raewyn Hughes (Co-ordinator) 021 0221 2186

**To find out more about your local
Daffodil Rally for Cancer, visit www.vcc.org.nz**

SULPHUR CITY RALLY 2023 ENTRY FORM

Saturday, 26 August 2023

Send to: Fleur Tomlinson, PO Box 114, Ngongotaha, Rotorua 3041
or by email to info@rvvcc.org.nz

Entries close - 22nd August 2023

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME OF ENTRANT _____

ADDRESS OF ENTRANT _____

_____ POST CODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

NAME OF NAVIGATOR _____

VEHICLE MAKE/MODEL/YEAR _____

CLASS (circle) 1-VV 2-PV 3-PWV 4-P60 5-Comm 6-P80

CONTACT PHONE _____

VCC MEMBERSHIP # _____

Tick box if touring instructions required ☐

Bumper Badge _____ @ \$25.00 ea _____

Saturday Lunch _____ @ \$18.00 pp _____

Saturday Dinner _____ @ \$65.00 pp _____

ENTRY FEE \$20.00 _____

Remittance enclosed TOTAL \$ _____

DIRECT DEPOSIT TO: ROTORUA VINTAGE CAR CLUB

BNZ: 02 0412 0236263 02

Please use entrant surname as reference!

CLUB NIGHT - August 9th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1994 Toyota Soarer 2.5GT

Followed by tea and coffee.

Sulphur City Rally Saturday, 26th August

Be at the club rooms by 8.00am. All entries must be completed prior to the event, there will be entry forms in the club rooms and an entry form in this issue of Side Curtains. There is an optional catered lunch during the rally.

Midweekers

As this issue went to press there was no planned activity for the midweekers in August, but there will be an event planned for September. There will be a long run ending at a café, total distance around 180km, more details in next Side Curtains.

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. Although there was an attempt by our branch to host a small show that day, it will not go ahead. Many of our neighbouring branches have events planned, there is a flyer for the BOP Branch event in this issue of Side Curtains.

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
August 2023	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	26	Sulphur City Rally	8am	Clubrooms	
Sept 2023	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	20	Midweek Café Run	TBA	TBA	
October 2023	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	15	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
Nov 2023	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	12	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
Dec 2023	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	Club Run	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.

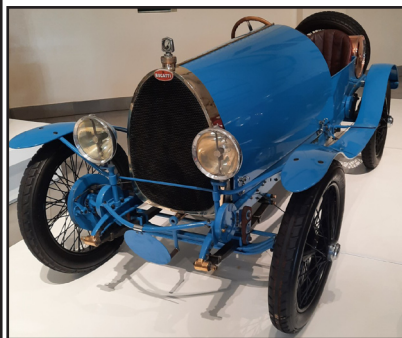
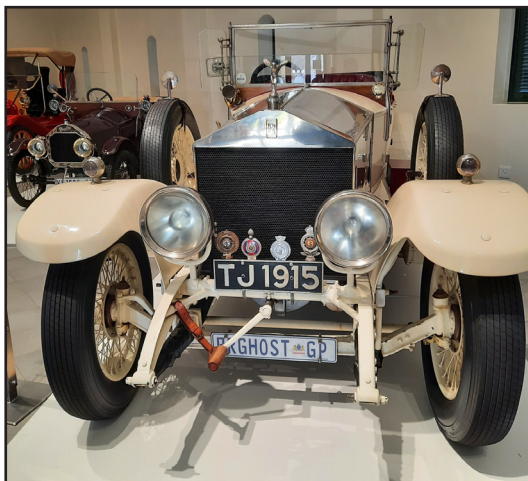
Please also make sure you “Like” our Facebook page to keep up to date.

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.

Franschoek Motor Museum, South Africa

A private collection visited by Dennis Brown
and Jen Cole on their latest adventures



Central North Island Swap Meet 2023

