

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

AUGUST 2015



ROTORUA



WE'RE NOW ON FACEBOOK !

www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

Swap Meet 2015 - Car Show cars

1954 Dodge
108 pickup



1972 Chevrolet
Nova SS

Draw prize
winner's
1968 Pontiac
Firebird



1956 Chevrolet
C1500 pickup

SIDE CURTAINS - August 2015

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

Sun Alliance Agency Number: HO 0300146

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

OFFICERS

Patron - Bob Mowbray

Chairperson - David Tomlinson

Secretary - Lois Thompson

Treasurer - Terry Fitzpatrick

Club Captain - Vacant

Asst. Club Captain - Vacant

Committee

Terry Wadsworth

Steve De Jeu

Darryl Stretch

Roger Nelson

John Peters

Mid Weekers - Bob Mackay

Side Curtains Editor - Fleur Maunsell

f.m.alsop@hotmail.com

Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

Librarian - Dorothy Clouston

Asst Librarian - John Kirkland

CONTENTS

Chairman's Report 2

True Motoring Tales 3

South Island Scene (part 1) 4

Swap Meet 2015 6

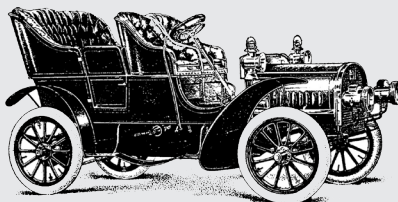
July Mid Weekers 8

Kairangi Hill Climb 9

Upcoming Mid Week runs 10

Events Calendar 12

Swap Meet Car Show IFC & IBC



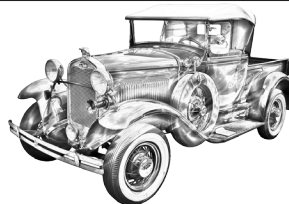
Cover Photos

Front - Swap Meet, July 2015

Back - Swap Meet, July 2015

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 2015

by David Tomlinson



Hi all, due to a healthy number of contributions to this issue of Side Curtains by many others I will keep this month's report brief.

The obvious highlight of the past month was the Swap Meet, held in glorious (albeit it very cool) weather. The team that put the event together, combined with the volunteers that served on the day, made this a very successful event, with very positive feedback from all quarters. Well done to all involved, on behalf of the branch I thank you.

I have been asked about transparency in the operation of the branch committee. It should be noted that the minutes of all committee meetings are put into the branch library and can be read by any branch member. This is not new, it has been done for some time. If you want to know more about what the committee does, feel free to read these minutes on branch meeting nights.

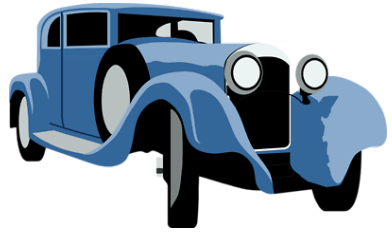
The branch continues to operate well with a DVD night planned for the August club night, and at least one guest speaker pencilled in for the meetings ahead of us for 2015. We may soon be able to announce a Club Captain too. Many people are still working hard to keep things running. If you have something to say, please let a committee member know. If you are not happy about something, it is really important to let us know. It serves no one well if members discuss concerns with the running of the branch amongst themselves without raising their concerns formally. We all share a common passion. While this does not mean we all have to agree on everything, let's make the branch a welcoming place for all members and prospective new members.

I am off to Dunedin along with Angie Brunton to attend the VCC AGM in August, and we have already starting preparing for the 2016 VCC AGM, which will be held in Rotorua. We will keep branch members informed as things develop, and I will comment on the national AGM in next month's Side Curtains. We will be required to offer support services to the 2016 meeting.

Lastly, I hope many of you will take part in the Sulphur City Rally at the end of August. A lot of hard work has already been put into organisation of this event. It would be good to see a good turn out of branch members on the day.

True Motoring Tales

by Ronald Mayes



Back in the 1990s we had a very good neighbour named Frank. He and his wife , originally from Wellington, lived here in the early 1950s, moved back in the 1960s and finally retired to Rotorua. A great one for yarns, two of his stories remain firmly in my memory and here is the first one.

In the early 1950s Frank was based in Rotorua and worked for BP. Among his duties were visits to outlying BP service stations to ensure that all was well. One day he drove to Putaruru in the firm's Standard Vanguard. Climbing the Mamaku hill he encountered another Vanguard, overtook it and carried on to Putaruru.

Some weeks later he happened to visit the local Standard-Triumph agent, Rotorua Tractor Services, and was immediately pounced upon by the service manager and the mechanics. "What have you done to that Vanguard?" they asked. "You easily overtook the boss in his Vanguard and he was going as fast as he could. We have just about dismantled his engine trying to work out what could be wrong with it to make it so much slower than yours."

Frank immediately replied " We haven't done anything to it, it's a perfectly standard Vanguard. It has always run quite well."

He didn't tell them that (this was in the days of 83 octane petrol) that he was using time-expired BP 100 octane aviation fuel.

Here is another story from our good neighbour Frank, this time against himself.

When Frank went back to Wellington he worked in the Harbour Board offices on Jervis Quay. Senior staff members routinely parked in a not strictly legal area behind the offices but no-one worried about it.

One day a former city council traffic officer began working in the office. Some time later Frank noticed a book of tickets on his desk – not travel or theatre tickets but the type traffic officers wrote out for misbehaving motorists. Frank removed a small number from the back of the book and a few days later they appeared on the windscreens of the parked Harbour Board employees' cars. The employees protested to the chief traffic officer about unnecessarily receiving these tickets and they were "let off."

Shortly afterwards Frank and his wife were visiting her parents. His father in law happened to be the Wellington City Council chief traffic officer and he told Frank that he had been very worried about a missing book of traffic offence tickets and how some of them had ended up on Harbour Board cars. "Someone must have found them and decided to play a joke on innocent motorists. You won't do it again, Frank, will you?"

South Island Scene (Part 1)

by Dave Mayhew



Every two years the motorcycle enthusiasts of the New Zealand Vintage Car Club hold a national competitive road trial (a rally) followed by a week of touring. It is held alternatively in the North and the South Island of New Zealand, in late February.

I have so far taken part in four of these rallies in the North Island, but in 2015 was going to prove to be my first opportunity to compete in the South Island and quite probably my last, as in four years time my body and my pension won't allow it.

It was going to take me four days of travelling to the rally headquarters in Cromwell, a wine producing town in the province of Central Otago, also widely regarded for its stone fruit production such as cherries, apricots, peaches and nectarines besides its world famous Pinot Noir.

First of all I had to ride just 40 miles (64 km) to Tokoroa, a forestry town on State Highway 1 where my Dragonfly was put on a trailer with other bikes and vans travelling down from Auckland to the Wellington Ferry, a further journey of about six hours. The ferry took just three hours to reach Picton at 9:30pm where we stayed the first night.

Next morning we made an early start so that we would have time to visit an historic aircraft museum at Omaka just out of Blenheim. There we found a very comprehensive collection of WW1 aircraft, mostly German, and I was quite surprised that such a large variety of makes and models were available to the military only 10 or 15 years after powered flight was first achieved.

It was such a beautiful summer's day, and after having already enjoyed two months of continuous sunshine I couldn't help but pessimistically expect the weather to break. We were then expecting to turn inland from the east coast and travel the Molesworth Station Road "sheep not trains", a five hour ride on an unsealed road which would have been a bit of a challenge, fortunately for us the forestry fire risk was in the "extreme" so the road was closed forcing us to continue on down the coast to Kaikoura, rather slightly further but obviously a far better surface to ride on.

Riding at 50-55 mph with the blue Pacific on my left and a slight blustery breeze I didn't wish for a more pleasant pastime.

We left Kaikoura at 3:30pm and stopping at Waiau for refreshments and a chat eventually arriving at our overnight stay at Hanmer Hot Springs at 5:30pm.

In the evening we all dined at a Bar/Restaurant named The Five Stags and interestingly, mounted on the wall were 5 different breeds of stag heads, each displaying its own array of antlers. The English Red, Japanese Sika, White Tail, Wapiti and Fallow. On that day we had ridden our Motorcycles for 325 kilometres.

We left Hanmer Springs the next day at 9am for another five or six hours riding, but conditions continued to be so pleasant that we had no reason to be daunted. The road was quite straight with a nice dry surface, and gentle bends, stopping at Darfield for lunch where I enjoyed a delicious potato top pie, and later in the afternoon a couple of us stopped to enjoy the magnificent mountain scenery at the Rakaia Gorge. There I noticed some ominous cumulus clouds appearing over the summits and thirty minutes later we were into heavy rain, but fortunately we soon dried out when the hot sun appeared again and at 3:30pm we arrived at our overnight stop at Geraldine. We had covered 310 kilometres that day.

The fourth day saw us heading across the McKenzie Country to our final destination of Cromwell. Its not so long ago that in 1992 when the Clyde Hydro Dam was built a large percentage of town had to be rebuilt on higher ground so that Lake Dunstan could be filled to capacity. On the way we were able to stop at Lake Tekapo and take photographs of an historic tiny church, "The Church of the Good Shepherd" and monument to the McKenzie collie dog a working animal that allowed the early farmers to break the millions of acres in as sheep farming pasture. I stopped and filled my tank at Twizel after passing mirror like lake Pukaki and from then on I found myself alone for the next 100 kilometres on a beautiful road with very light traffic and no sign whatsoever of human habitation apart from the road, not even a fence, a power pole or a telephone wire, just the rolling dry grassland and the surrounding mountains in the far distance. I passed just one small township on the way called Omarama and was quite surprised that when I arrived in Cromwell I was one and half hours ahead of the other bikers in my group. I understand that they were all diverted for quite some distance around a road accident. This journey put another 305 kilometres on my clock.

The following day was competition day and there were 170 competing machines from a 1911 King Dick up to a 1983 Suzuki GSX. I seemed to feel I was the only Douglas competing though I noticed that there was a 1935 Endeavour owned by Robert Simpson of Hamilton registered and also a beautifully restored 1915 2 3/4 hp owned by Percy Ralston of Ashburton. There were 69 competitors in my class - the PWV Class - and there being such a huge number of competitors we were started off three at a time.

My chosen speed was 30mph and I managed to keep my speed quite close to this throughout the whole rally. At several stages the road became unsealed requiring extra caution, and once whilst waiting to turn onto a main road there were about 15 bikes in front of me all waiting to enter the intersection, all with their varying speeds, but I managed to keep 30 seconds ahead of my time in case of any 'hold ups'.

(Second part of this article will be continued in September issue of Side Curtains)

Swap Meet

July 12th 2015

by Steve De Jeu



A Big Thank You !!!

- To Roger Neilson for the organisation for the Swap meet.
- To the rest of the Swap Meet Committee team for the smooth otherwise uneventful operation on the day.
- To the ladies in the kitchen, thank you for the yummy snacks, soups, sweets & endless cuppas to keep us going.
- To all the rest of the branch members who helped on the day.
- To David & Jill Phelps for the use of their cabin as a ticket box.
- To John Peters for the review write up & photo. (Good to see another member in the public eye).

Next Years Must Haves:
Fluro Steel Toed Gumboots
(you know who you are!)



What a cracker of a weekend! The start of the week looked a bit dodgy (me thinking here we go again: gumboots, coat & 4 wheel drive weather), mid week clearing, and what do you know a fine weekend forecast. Saturday arvo rolls in and here we are setting up in beautiful sunny weather with hardly a breath of wind, sellers start to roll in for setup, with everyone in good sprits. Roll on 5pm & the sun starts to set & down goes the temp (over night campers are in for a cold one). Security on deck & I was outta there, home to the warmth.

Beep, beep, beep! Damn, its 4am already. Crisp & clear, its going to be a good one. Road to the track good & icy, this could be interesting, yep there goes the tail... Phew, made it! Lights on "Wakey Wakey Campers". Security telling tails of would be sellers/buyers trying to get in to have a look around, because the security let them in last year... (no he didn't it's the same security). "Oh, s'pose I better go then" was the response. Otherwise a quite night.

6:30am gates open, here we go!!!

Mad rush to get in the gate, gotta get the bargains. In the first couple of hours there is a steady stream of sellers & buyers descending on the swap meet. As daylight takes over there is an interesting array of merchandise leaving through Stan's gate, (most notably large quantities of taxidermy animals of all shapes & sizes). As the day rolls on the car show fills, numbers swelling to over 100, with an awesome array of cars on show.



Big smiles everywhere from sellers to buyers and everyone in-between. Good weather brings everyone out of the woodwork or metalwork as the case may be. One happy car show entrant walked away with the one hundred dollar draw prize, I'm sure that made his day. As the clock rolls around to 2 pm the crowds have thinned and the sellers pack away their wares. We close down for another year and head home happy and content that it was all worth the early, albeit cold ,start tom the day.

MD MAX

OUR WEBSITE

www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

Monthly updates for events and our magazine.

We need more photos from members to upload to change its look regularly. Email photos to the Side Curtains editor.

WE ARE ON FACEBOOK!

The branch has a Facebook page which has a growing number of new likes every week, with items and pictures being shared around the internet regularly.

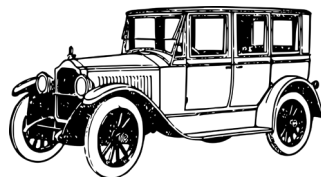


Just search for "Rotorua Vintage Car" in Facebook to find the page. Press "like" and you will automatically get notifications of posts on the page.

Efforts will be made to post photos from events and runs, club notices and other items to help members and prospective new members alike.

Mid Weekers - July 22

by Terry Fitzpatrick



Members met at the Clubrooms at 10 am for a cuppa. After a frosty early morning, the sun was out and we were looking forward to a pleasant drive. The run was well supported with 15 cars and 28 members.

Bob called us all to attention to give us our marching orders. He said that we had three options and if we didn't like options 2 or 3, we could take option 1 - "go home now".

We set off towards the City and turned left into Sala street, then left at the roundabout and headed south. All drivers were very wary on the shaded road past Waipa. Once past here and out in the sun the drive was very pleasant to Rainbow Mountain where we took a left and headed in the direction of Murupara and took another left to head to Rerewhakaaitu, where on reaching the village we turned left and travelled a Km or so and turned left into Ash Pit road.

The drive around the foot of Mt Tarawera was very interesting and viewing the size and amount of the boulders strewn over the farms gives a realization of the magnitude of the eruption.

We stopped at the parking area at Lake Rerewhakaaitu for a breather and a natter before heading back taking the third right into Lake Okaro road, stopping at Waimungu where we all enjoyed a very nice lunch. We then headed for home at our leisure, and after all the left turns, it was good to see that nobody got LEFT behind. A very enjoyable outing, thanks Bob & Pat.



Member cars on the July Mid-Weekers run at Lake Rerewhakaaitu reserve

VCC (Waikato) Inc.

KAIRANGI HILL CLIMB

Kairangi Road near Cambridge

Sunday 13th September 2015

Sponsored by;

**Waikato Clutch and Brake
Hamilton**

This popular event is open to all members of the VCC of NZ Inc. or MSNZ affiliates
and caters for all classes of VCC qualifying vehicles.

Entry \$75; 'second driver' \$37.50

Entry closing date is Friday 4th September 2015.

Hot drinks provided and a complimentary sausage sizzle at lunch break.

Entries & Enquiries: Kairangi Hillclimb Organiser,
PO. Box 924, Hamilton 3240

Email: gpholmes@kinect.co.nz

Phone: (07) 827 7341 A/H

Or download from the branch website;

www.wvvcc.co.nz

New longer course...2.1kms!!



NEXT CLUB NIGHT - August 12th

DVD Night - “Martha’s Mine”

There will be 30 minute DVD presentation about the history of Martha’s Mine at Waihi, followed by general business.

Daffodil Day

We have received an email from Judy Heywood whose husband Kevin was a long time member of the South Canterbury branch. Before losing his battle with cancer last year he organised that daffodils were delivered annually to business in his area for Daffodil Day by local branch members in their classic cars.

Judy has asked that other branches contact their local Cancer Society to see if if something similar could happy in all districts around New Zealand. Let your committee know if this is something you may be interested in.

Rotorua Franchise for Land Rover - 1970s

We have received an email from a member of Gore branch who has a 1970 Series IIA Land Rover sold new in Rotorua. He was hoping to be able to obtain an image of the logo of the franchise dealer for Rotorua at that time if that was at all possible. Contact David Tomlinson if you can help.

Upcoming Midweek Runs

Wednesday 26th August

Note the run change from that previously advised.

Meet for morning tea, 10am at the club rooms. From the club rooms we will drive to Paengaroa, meeting again on Wilson Road, (near Convita HQ) to form a convoy and proceed to Tauranga via Mt Maunganui and the new Toll Road. At Mt Maunganui take Hewitts Road to Tauranga for either a picnic lunch or Fish and Chips next to the old cargo sheds on the Tauranga Wharf (with either choice you may wish to bring thermos for a hot drink). After Lunch we will visit Kevin McCardell, Wood Sculptor who will give us a presentation of his work. Gold Coin donation please.

Road Toll info: tolls payable on www.tollroad.govt.nz also payable in cash at selected Caltex and BP Service Stations where a service charge will apply. Locally Caltex is on the corner of Amohau and Ranolf Streets.

Midweek run Wednesday 23rd September - To be advised

Midweek Spring Tour 27-28-29 October (return 30th)

Taranaki via the Forgotten Highway - details to follow

BUY, SELL, SWAP...

FOR TENDER (on behalf of Mrs Nicky Renwick)

Jaguar C Type replica built between 2000 & 2013 by the late Frank Renwick.

Faithful copy of the 1952 drum braked C Type. 1952 Mk 7 engine, torsion bar suspension, Bruin fibreglass body.



Registered but not LVVTA certified. Great potential for the Jaguar or Historic Racing enthusiast.

Contact Roger White on 04 563 6236 or white.house.stokesvalley@xtra.co.nz for further information.

Tenders close 30 September 2015.

Contributions to Side Curtains

This is your magazine. It's content will only be as good as the information members submit to the editor to include. 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 clubs are encouraged to pen a short piece about their experience to include in the next issue going to print.

Errata - In the July 2015 issue of Side Curtains it was recorded that the Trevor Burns Trophy was awarded for the Most Rallied Pre-War Vintage. This was in error, the category should have been recorded as Most Rallied Post-War Vehicle.

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
August	12	Club "DVD" Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	26	Midweekers	9.30am	Tauranga run	10
	29	Sulphur City Rally	8.30am	Clubrooms	12
September	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	23	Midweekers	TBA	TBA	
October	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	27-30	Midweek Spring Tour	TBA	via Forgotten Highway	10



The Rotorua Vintage Car Club
cordially invites you to take part in their annual

Sulphur City Rally

to be held on 29 August 2015
at the VVCC Clubrooms, Neil Hunt Park
Briefing at 8.30am. First car away at 9.00am



Swap Meet 2015 - Car Show cars

1935 Packard
Super 8



1974 Valiant
Regal Coupe

1961 Chrysler
Imperial



A pair of Mk2
Cortinas

CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND SWAP MEET

12 July 2015

