

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

AUGUST 2019



WE'RE NOW ON FACEBOOK !

www.rvvcc.org.nz

July Midweekers



Rocky Fiske's 1972 MK IV Spitfire



SIDE CURTAINS - August 2019

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
Ph 021 731 678

Treasurer - Terry Fitzpatrick

Club Captain - vacant

Asst. Club Captain - vacant

Committee

Bob Mackay

Terry Wadsworth

Ronald Mayes

Kevin Scott

Lois Thompson

Neville Harper

Mid Weekers - Bob Mackay

Side Curtains Editor - David Tomlinson

rvcc.editor@gmail.com

Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

Librarian - Dennis Kenny

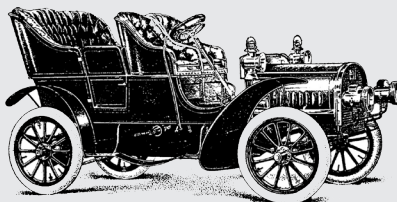
Asst Librarian - Roger Couchman

Asst Librarian - John Kirkland

Cards/Flowers - Doreen Green

CONTENTS

Chairman's Report	2
From The Secretary	4
Bereavement Thanks	5
Swap Meet 2019	6
Spring Tour 2019	7
July Midweekers	8
Rally Questions	9
Upcoming Midweek Runs	11
Events Calendar	12



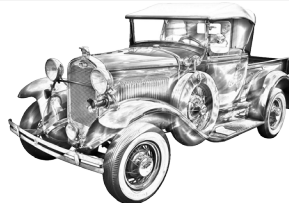
Cover Photos

Front - Swap Meet 2019

Back - Swap Meet Car Show

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 2019

by David Tomlinson



The Swap Meet was a success again, earning the branch a surplus of just over \$9,000. The weather was very good, dry and mild from the start, until mid-day when the forecast rain finally arrived. The public car park was full needing to use the overflow area. We had lots of show cars (mostly American again) and vendors reported good steady sales. The \$100 draw prize for show cars was won by a NZ new 1955 Ford Ranchwagon complete with surfboard on its roof. I can't say thank you enough to all those who helped, especially those that helped clean up during fairly consistent rain on Sunday afternoon. The reward was a bountiful afternoon tea.

At July's club night we had a great talk from Doug Green on the trip he and Doreen took around the Mediterranean, Europe and the UK, complete with many photos and other memoirs from their time away. This month's club night will feature a car in the room, a Mk2 Cortina.

The weekend after our August club night I will be driving down to the VCC AGM in Greymouth, hopefully the snow will have abated a bit by then. I have tried to organise a couple of special car related visits on the way down and back in the short time I have available, more about that in next month's Side Curtains.

We are assisting with daffodil deliveries again before the Sulphur City Rally. Further details about this are in the Secretary's column, and please note the midweekers run will be a different

date than usual to accommodate the daffodil help.

The last Saturday in August is the Sulphur City Rally, it is not too late to enter. There are entry forms available in the clubrooms and on the branch website. Don't forget it's Father's Day on the Sunday after the rally!

This year we will not be holding a VCC National "Daffodil" Day rally, but many other neighbouring branches are doing so, the weekend before our Sulphur City Rally. If you would like to take part in one of their runs, let me or Dennis know and we will pass on the details of the various options available.

Please don't forget the Spring Tour, accommodation will be filling up, let the organisers know you are planning to take part.

Finally, the branch's Facebook page is interesting enough that it now has over 500 followers. If you haven't "liked" it, do so soon, as it is one of the quickest way to communicate urgent information to members, as well as keep people informed as to what is going on.

Library Notes *by Dennis Kenny*

New addition: Motor Services New Automotive Encyclopaedia. It is an older book that is very informative

The Club has inherited a large number of classic car magazines, including: Classic and Sports Car (UK), NZ Classic Car, Classic Driver (NZ)

These are all on the floor of the library and are free to members. Please help yourself. If the pile is not substantially reduced they will go to the recyclers in 2/3 months.

FROM THE SECRETARY

by
Dennis Whimp



Side Curtains Magazine

We are still getting 50 hard copies of the magazine printed. These can be picked up on club night or at any of the other events at the clubrooms. I email out the magazine to all those I have emails for. There are a number of members who get their copies posted out. Since our special meeting last year when it was resolved to charge \$45.00 annually for this service, postage has gone up twice but we have changed printers to Advocate Printing which has significantly reduced that cost. At the last committee meeting these changes were discussed and we resolved to reduce the cost for posting out to \$40.00 per annum. If you would like a posted copy, let me know. Those that currently have elected to get it posted will get an account for the next 12 months with this issue.

Daffodil Delivery Day

Tuesday 27th Aug, 9.15am, Cancer Society Rooms. Ranolf Street. We have been once again requested by the Cancer Society to deliver daffodils to businesses and residents as part of their annual fundraiser. We need around a dozen cars, driver and at least one passenger to run the daffodils in as quite often it is necessary to double park. We have had a mixture of vintage, classic and modern vehicles in the past and it would be great to see the same again. The Cancer Society rooms are on Ranolf Street in the block south of the Pukuatua Street roundabout. If you can help please let Angie know by phone at 348 4546 or text at 027 475 4054.

New Members

A big welcome to Mark McKee and Nathalie Descat who have joined with a 1930 Chevrolet Coupe that I understand was imported from the States. They are friends of Robyn Skelton and Paul Wollaston. We look forward to meeting you and having you at our events.

Cars on the Move

I understand that the Caulfield's Chrysler Imperial went to a new owner in Auckland. Ex-member Dave Pannell who had forever a very tidy early 70's AP5 valiant as his every day driver has sold it to a Christchurch club member. I will update you next month on a number of other vehicles that have arrived in members garages.

Library Magazines

We have a number of duplicates of all sorts of motoring magazines that are currently piled on the library floor. They are free for the taking. But check with librarian Dennis Kenny to make sure you take the correct ones.

Bereavement Thanks

What a wonderful surprise to see familiar faces from VCC Rotorua at St Faiths Church for Jeanettes funeral. It was appreciated and I will thank you all personally when I can.

Most of you will not have met Jeanette. She wasn't into old cars and it probably didn't help that I tried to measure her backside to check she would fit before I purchased the Panther. And of course it was difficult organizing time off together when you own a Holiday Park in Rotorua and a business in Tauranga.

We also received a Bereavement Card from the club for my wife Joanne – Joanne must be one of my other wives. Jeanette would have seen the funny side – I certainly did.

Jeanette was diagnosed with Leukemia 12 months ago but as usual remained positive. She had purchased her burial plot and organized the kopaki (flax coffin), kai-hakari, and Tangi 6 months before she died. Towards the end it was distressing watching someone you love struggling to hold onto every moment of life but humbling to watch them die with humour, grace and dignity.

Arohanui, *Michael in the red Panther*

Central North Island Swap Meet 2019

By Dennis Whimp

What a difference 15 years makes. Thanks to the internet and the Metservice rain radar and rain forecast, our swap meet carpark was overflowing with people and not water. All the week prior, the weather forecasts were predicting a very wet Sunday for the swap meet. However, on the Friday the internet Metservice forecast showed a heavy band of westerly rain crossing us around midday Sunday. By Saturday evening it had firmed up to a heavy band between 1 and 3pm. Just perfect timing. A number of Aucklanders told us that was what made their mind up. A quick confirmation check at 3am and they were on their way. Which is probably why there were not as many sellers setting up on Saturday as in the past.

And so it turned out warm and fine at 6am. By 10am we were full of buyers, sellers and show cars with the public overflow carpark in the farm across the road being put into service. At 11am, after checking the rain radar, many of the sellers had started to pack up. Just after midday there was a traffic jam of sellers leaving. Right on cue the drizzle started and by 1 pm it was a deluge.

It never ceases to amaze me at the cheerful willingness of our members to be involved in the Swap Meet. The heaviest workload falls to Roger and Neville who are organising the lead in from months beforehand, their long days on Saturday and Sunday, plus the wrap up in the week following. Then there are the countless members helping with the organisation, setting up, marshalling, on the gates, in the kitchen, and then clearing up the site, this year in the pouring rain. The soup and warm snacks in the kitchen were a lifesaver after the clean up when you are up at 4am. A preliminary check on the financials indicates we should be just ahead of last year's result.

The stockcar club has been steadily improving the venue with many more concrete slabs in their pit area which we use for the sellers. It is their intent that by next year they will complete all the pit parking area slabs and bitumen seal all the metal roadways. The use of their new toilets was a winner and the showcar area in the middle of the track is very firm and ideal being right beside the sellers.

And what happened 15 years ago? The TV was the best weather forecast we could get and it forecast rain for the Swap Meet weekend. Doug Green and I met at the racecourse at 2am on Sunday to put out the signs. It was still raining and the middle of the racecourse, the public parking area, was well over ankle deep in water. Just one big lake. So the public parking was on the streets that year and I think it was our lowest financial result ever, despite the rain clearing around 8 am.

Midweekers Spring Tour 2019, November 5th, 6th and 7th *by Rocky Fiske*

This year's Spring Tour will be 2 nights/3 days to New Plymouth 1st night, then the 2nd night will be Hangatiki/Waitomo.

First day will be travel to NewPlymouth staying at "Amber Court Motel". Second day will be the feature of the tour , the "Holden Museum" in New Plymouth which we have booked for Wednesday 6th November. We drive back to Waitomo that same day and stay at the "Caves Motor Inn". Both evening meals have been arranged.

On the third day in the morning we will visit a large collection of rare cars in the Te Awamutu area. This will be followed by lunch where the tour will end.

Accommodation has been reserved with a limited number of rooms at:

"Amber Court Motel" New Plymouth at \$120 for a studio.
Please quote Rotorua Vintage Car Club reservation number 80942.
Ph 0800 654 800

Second Night booking is "Caves Motor Inn" also at \$120 for a studio once again please quote Rotorua Vintage Car Club.
Ph 07 873 8109

You will need to give credit card details to secure bookings, payment is required on arrival at both motels (payment can be made by cash or eftpos payment by credit card at Caves Motor Inn will incur a 2% fee).

We look forward to your company on this tour. Please advise us when you have made your bookings. Phone Rocky on 021 446 486 or Rebecca on 021 0286 7827, or email: rockyfiske26@gmail.com

July Midweekers *by Bob Mackay*

Unfortunately the arranged visit to Classic Flyers was postponed as the museum was closed for a private function. The day was little cool and overcast, but not deterred, a smaller number than usual arrived at the clubrooms for morning tea. Following morning tea we drove to Tauranga via the direct road (SH36) to the Bloom Café at the Decor Garden World on Moffats Road, Bethlehem. With another car meeting us at the venue we had a total 6 club cars and one modern.

We all enjoyed a good lunch under a very efficient heater out on the deck. After two hours with the garden centre inspected, the odd plant purchased and the new use for Morris Minors observed it was time to move on. Some left to visit friends on the way home while others called in to check out the new extensions at Tauriko Crossing. While the temptation to shop was overcome by the gentlemen, the ladies got loose; fortunately the bills were not too high so we were able to afford afternoon tea before the drive home following an enjoyable day.

EV Comparison *by Ronald Mayes*

An article in the Dominion Post analyses the cost of operating a new top of the range Toyota Corolla and the equivalent Nissan Leaf. Corolla new price \$37490, Leaf \$59990 and that's with the government's \$8000 "rebate."

Provided there are no road user charges for the Leaf and estimating petrol, power and other costs the article suggests that it would take 150000 km in the Leaf to break even, (and having to put up with limited range and long battery charging times,

particularly at home if you don't have a high-amperage set-up.)

If you have to pay road user charges for the electric car (and you will!) it could take 500,000 km to break even!

It will be some time before our petrol fueled cars disappear for good!

Happy motoring everyone.

Rally Question Setting, etc *by Ronald Mayes*

Reading recent committee minutes I was reminded that I was supposed to write something on this subject after I had raised a couple of questions, so here goes!

On a recent run some questions were on arterial roads such as in a no-stopping area of Clayton Road or on the busy Hamurana road where several cars (ours included!) were seen doing U-turns to go back to find a clue - tricky and potentially dangerous manoeuvres on a highway. The odd question has also been out of sequence and this has caused U-turns to be made. On earlier runs we have always enjoyed being able to search out the answers to the questions without hindering any traffic, but even on Sunday afternoons vehicle volumes here have certainly become much higher in recent years, and this needs to be taken into account when planning!

A member raised the subject of having a "tail-end Charlie" on all runs to help in lost or breakdown situations - he had taken a wrong turn on a mid-week run. On another run someone stopped on a country road to study his map but no-one stopped to check if he was okay.

All food for thought, comments welcome!

CAR ASSEMBLY - ENGLAND versus NZ

by Ronald Mayes

Time was when new English-built cars were more highly desired than locally assembled ones because of their perceived better quality (as long as they were new, and had not been driven on salt-covered roads) but was that really true?

By chance the chairman of the UK Hornby Railway Collectors' Association and I discovered a mutual interest in Valencia Blue Triumphs - he has a convertible Vitesse. He wrote that three boxes of paperwork came with the car when he bought it, including a carbon copy of the original owner's letter of complaint to the MD of Triumph listing its many faults on delivery, including the absence of every nut but one on the gearbox top, and that the rear axle was so out of true that the car crabbed 4 inches out of line. The car was returned to the factory-owned dealership in London and reassembled by middle-aged men in khaki smocks.

The result was a well-built car which remains almost totally original today. Its mileage is still below 80,000 but gets regular use. The owner says "it feels about as safe as a plastic bag out in the traffic but can manage 22 miles per gallon."

I queried his high fuel consumption and he said that to other motorists convertible Heralds are "granny cars" like the one seen in "The Last of the Summer Wine." BMW drivers alongside him at the traffic lights don't realise it is a Vitesse until the light turns green, when he takes off in second gear and full throttle, changing into third at about 50 mph and leaving the BMWs behind. (He sounds rather like your NZ hoon, but he is close to my age - maybe some English drivers never grow up!)

CLUB NIGHT - August 14th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: Ford Cortina Mk2 E

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

Upcoming Midweek Runs *by Bob Mackay*

August Midweekers - 21st August 2019

(organised by Bill & Adelai Skelton)

Note the change of week. The change has been made due to the clubs commitment to deliver daffodils for the Cancer Society's Daffodil Day.

Meet at the Club Rooms for morning tea at 10 am. Following morning tea we take a mystery tour to a café that has an interesting display of local historical photographs and exhibits. The day should provide a good opportunity to check the club car for the Sulphur City Rally.

Members are reminded that midweek runs are open to all members and while club cars are encouraged, those who choose to bring a modern are still welcome. It is pleasing to see that members have been happy to take a turn at organising the runs, for those who feel unable to organise a run, that is fine but do come along and support those who do

August Club Event - Sulphur City Rally

Saturday August 31st

Entry forms for this event are in the clubrooms or can be downloaded from the branch website.

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
Aug 2019	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	21	Midweekers Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
	27	Daffodil deliveries	9.15am	Cancer Society, Ranolf St	4
	31	Sulphur City Rally	8.30am	Clubrooms	11
Sep 2019	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	15	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	25	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
Oct 2019	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	13	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	23	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
Nov 2019	3	BOP Swap Meet	7am-2pm	29 Cliff Rd, Tauranga	
	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	27	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	

www.rotoruaVintageCarClub.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.

Swap Meet Car Show cars



Some of the Swap Meet Car Show cars

