

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

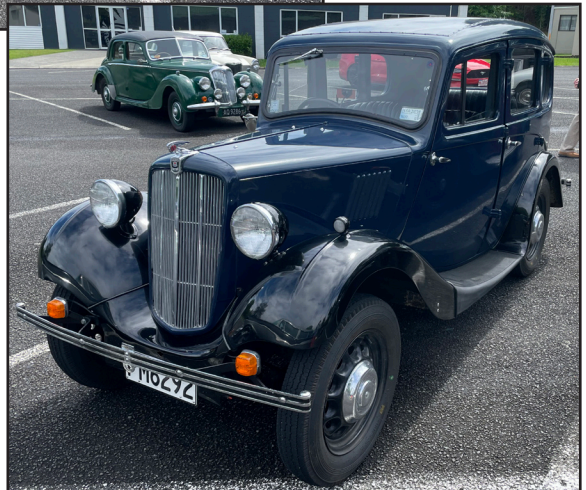
FEBRUARY 2023



WE ARE ON FACEBOOK !

www.rvvcc.org.nz

December High Tea Run



SIDE CURTAINS - February 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 - Dennis Whimp
021 731 678

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
rvvcc.editor@gmail.com

Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

Librarian - Dennis Kenny

Librarian - Ronald Mayes

Cards/Flowers - Doreen Green

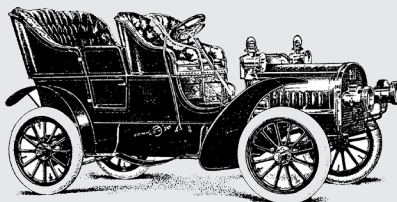
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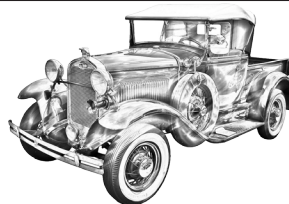
Cover Photos

Front - Lakefront Car Show

Back - December High Tea Run

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

- January 2023

by David Tomlinson



At the last minute our December 'car in the room' had to be cancelled due to the incredible and sustained poor weather than blighted the back end of 2022, and seems to have only got worse as we start 2023. Hopefully we can see the MG in the club rooms at our February club night.

We were very lucky with the weather for the Lakefront Car Show in January, although some groups did stay away fearing rain would come. It didn't, it was dry all day, and we had close to 350 cars on the Village Green. Sadly the wooden boats people did not end up making it, but we did have one boat there, which was ultimately tied up to the back of our Toledo. We seemed to be down a little on members' cars this year, but we got a great response from other clubs and the public, and the whole of St Johns in the Bay Of Plenty seemed to fill the middle of the lawn. With the help of neighbours and new members Hayden and Patrick we managed to get 8 of our cars, 2 of our neighbour's cars and a boat to and from the event in good time. It was good to see groups from BOP and Taupo VCC there, and the reborn Waikato Rover club, Morris Minor clubs and Zephyr/Zodiac and Jaguar clubs too.

As usual we get some unusual cars present, which included a VW Beetle with 'Porsche kit' and a one of a kind (in New Zealand) coach built Daimler 104 Sports Saloon. A few Austin Healeys were present, a number of muscle cars and quite a few pre-war cars too. The Council only "signed off" on the event 4 days before it happened, lets hope it can be sorted a lot earlier for the next show so we can widen our promotion of the event.

Fleur and I spent over 3 weeks in Germany, France and the UK over the summer break, visiting many museums and places of interest, perhaps we will do a visual presentation of the trip at a future club night. The only Covid related impositions all trip were just on trains in Germany, otherwise no masks at all from 'go to whoa', and no requests to see vaccine certificates.

Highlights included seeing a Russian TU-144 'Concorski' next to an Air France Concorde in Germany, including going inside the Russian plane. Also seeing the unbelievable 'Schlumf brothers' car collection in France, taking a night tour of Paris on New Years Eve in a 1955 Citroen Light 11 saloon and visiting many small country pubs and cafés in the UK for breakfasts, lunches and dinners. The hospitality was beyond our expectations every time.

As there was not a lot of content received for our first issue of Side Curtains for 2023, I have padded out some of the pages with some images of some special vehicles we saw on our travels around Europe and the UK.

Our first club run for 2023 will be the BBQ Run which will be a week later than usual as a number of branch members and their cars will attend Brits At The Beach just after our club night. The BBQ Run will be partly catered by the destination venue's host, and there is a \$5 charge per person for what will be a very good lunch. You will have to drive back to Rotorua (perhaps up to an hour of travel time) after the luncheon, so make sure you have plenty of fuel on board before starting the run.

Please note the AGM is only now 3 months away, we will be needing a new candidate for branch secretary, and it is always good to get new faces on the committee. It is not an arduous task, and helps shape the club's direction. The branch really is only the sum of its members, and their enthusiasm.

FROM THE SECRETARY

by
Dennis Whimp



What a fantastic turn out for our Lakefront car show. BOP VVCC came over in force after initially hesitating because of the early rain in the hills. There were many others of our regular clubs. Thank goodness we didn't hold it the following weekend. I was up at Kumeu at a wedding on the day before our car show and couldn't believe the traffic queues all day for their big event. It reinforced why I don't want to live in Auckland. Just a simple 5 minute drive to our car show.

Our end of year high tea run ended with a superb finger food luncheon at the clubrooms. A big thanks to all those who prepared the food and tidied up afterwards. Ralph Bennett would have made the Christmas cake, but breaking his leg ruled that out, so Marilyn Sarich stepped in and made it exactly to Ralph's recipe and instructions. It was the best Christmas cake I have ever had. Thanks Marilyn and Ralph.

Dennis and Jen are well on their way on their drive from England through France and Spain, and down the African continent in their Landrover. They are currently in Mauritania heading to Senegal. Jen does an interesting daily blog with photos. You can read it www.kiwiandapom.nz

We have a large Banford stationary engine in the clubrooms that was provided on permanent loan during John Lamb's presidency in the late 1980's. A family member of the donor called us before Christmas to see if he could collect it and sell it. After a bit of research, we found he was legitimate. He had lost the original 1980's letter from the branch acknowledging that he was the owner. We

advised him that he was welcome to remove it, but as he is based in Australia, nothing has yet happened. I thought I should note this in case the issue arises in the future. I will get a plaque made and glue it to the engine so we all know its status.

The Rotorua Tractor and Machinery Club are holding their working day on Sunday 26th February at the corner of SH5 and Oturoa Road, starting at 10am. They have requested assistance for car parking and also to display our vehicles. In the past we have had a team up there helping and the arrangement was that they would provide additional manpower at our swap meet if we required them. The car parking is generally around 9am to 11.30. Let me know if you can help. 021 731 678.

Just before Christmas we had further advice from NZVCC that all incorporated societies would need new constitutions to comply with the Incorporated Societies Act that was passed in 2022. All societies would need to comply by 2025. As a first step, NZVCC has put out a position paper on reforming the national management body that includes a number of options for discussion at branch level and decisions at the March executive meeting. A number of branches have formed discussion groups for this first stage and with the great wealth of legal knowledge in those branches, I am sure we will get a sound decision. The new constitution for NZVCC will no doubt be debated and finally voted for at the AGM or at a Special GM. After that the next stage will be to get revised draft constitution for our own branch which will comply with the national one. If anyone feels like they would like to be part of this first process, let me and I can forward you the info.

Some of our member's accounts for membership of the branch are overdue. If you do not intend renewing, please let the National office know. Overdue accounts are being sent out at the start of February.

What's In A Name?

by Ronald Mayes

I have owned my Vanden Plas Princess 1100 for almost 54 years but have just learned how to correctly pronounce its name! The “Vanden” part was easy enough but the “Plas” always worried me. The English call it Plah, but a Dutch vintage Bentley owner told me in no uncertain terms, years ago, that the ‘s’ should be sounded.

Now, an article in the U.K. Vanden Plas Owners’ Club magazine by Belgian member Roland Stoffel tells me how to say the name. It is definitely Flemish in origin, but Guillaume Vandenplas and his family spoke French, as did many upper class Belgians. The first factory was in French-speaking Brussels, but later they opened a huge one in Antwerp and the many workers there would have spoken Flemish.

So: “Van” with the short ‘a’ as in the name of the closed-body goods vehicle, “den” unstressed as in the second syllable of London and “plas” with the short ‘a’ as in van or gas and definitely the ‘s’ on the end! Van den means “Of the” and plas, from Dutch, means a small pool, or puddle. And that puddle can be of water, oil, blood or, er, urine...

Now, in English, many foreign names are mutilated to enormous degrees! I will write a little article about how some sound in their native tongues, and how so much better they sound, with “BMW” for a start...

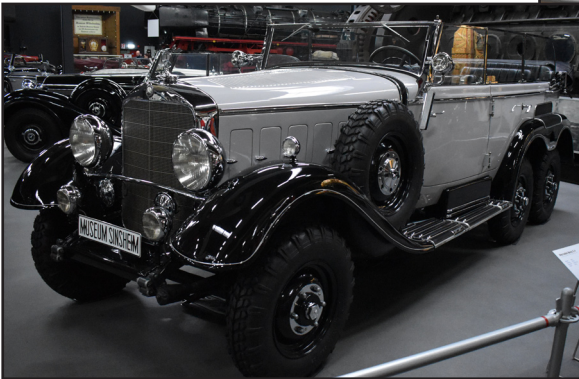
Sinsheim Technik Museum - Germany



Amphicar



1899 Grout
Steam Car



Mercedes-Benz G4
6 wheeler

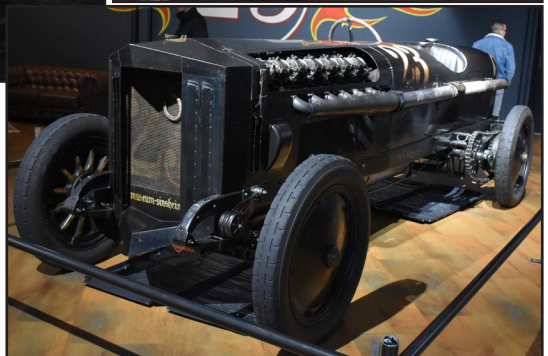
Mercedes-Benz in pink



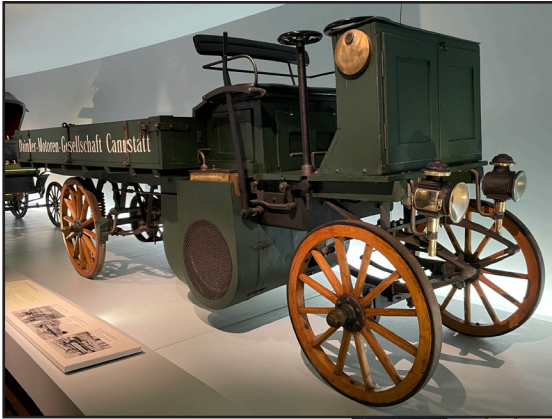
Lamborghini 350GT



"Brutus" - custom built
with 46L Heinkel
BMW V12 aero engine

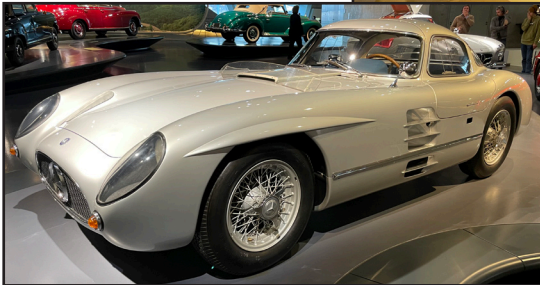
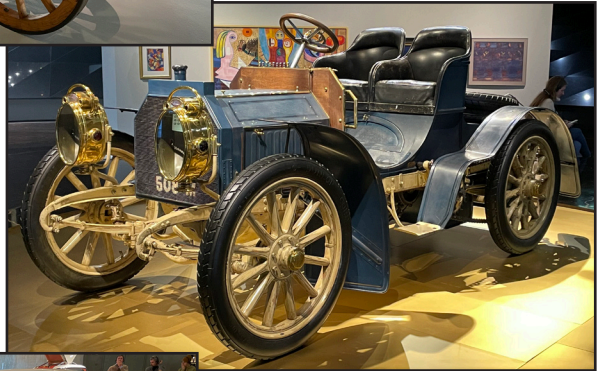


Mercedes-Benz Museum - Stuttgart



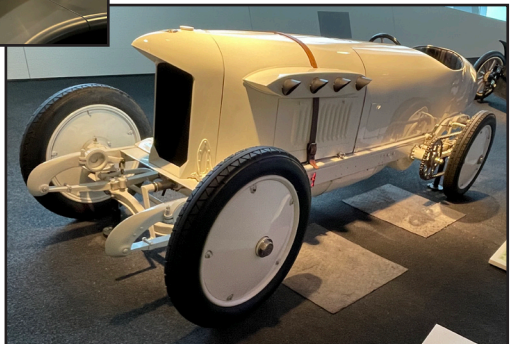
Oldest surviving
Daimler truck

Oldest surviving
'Mercedes-Benz'

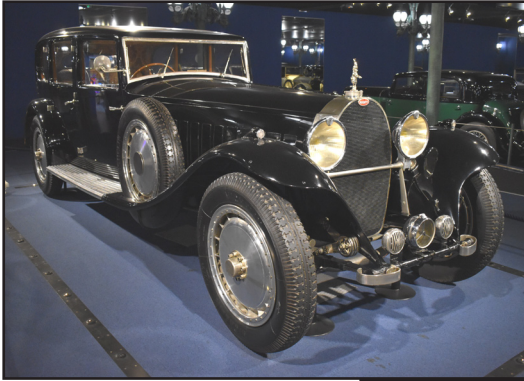


'Most expensive car
in the world' - 1955
Mercedes-Benz
300 SLR

Blitzen Benz

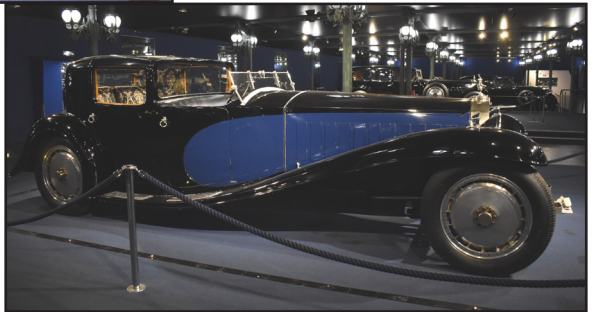


'Schlumpf Collection' - France



Bugatti Royale

Bugatti Royale

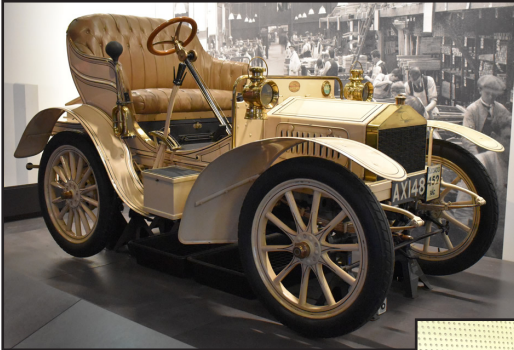


Alfa Romeo 8C 2900

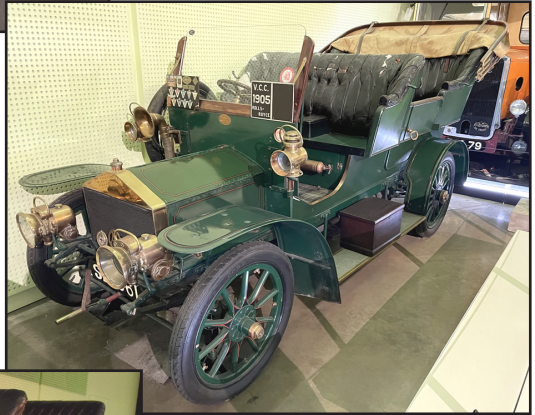
Pegaso Z 102B



Cars in UK museums

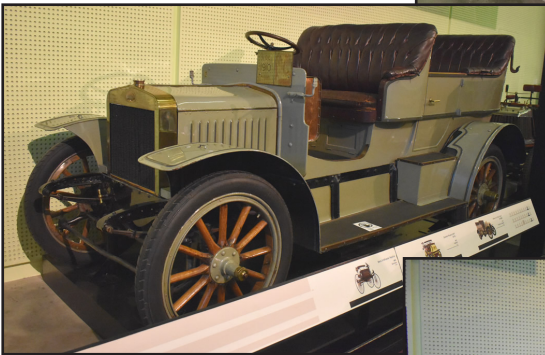


Rolls-Royce 10Hp



Rolls-Royce 15Hp

1910 Albion A3



1906 Arrol Johnston
"TT" Model 18



CLUB NIGHT - February 8th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1929 MG M type Midget

Followed by tea and coffee.

BBQ Run Sunday, 19th February

Meet at the clubrooms at 10am. First car away 10.30am. The run is approx 90 minutes long, and you will need to have enough fuel to return to Rotorua afterwards as the run will end up near Te Puke.

There will be a charge of \$5 per person to cover the BBQ luncheon. Please BYO plates, cutlery, cups, drinks and chairs. The BBQ lunch will be served at the run's destination. If you are not attending February's club night can you please confirm if you are coming on the run as we need numbers for catering. Contact Shona on 348 0680 or 027 536 0721.

Midweekers

Midweekers are still looking for a more permanent co-ordination arrangement, but every effort will be made to keep the "regulars" updated on outings as they are planned throughout 2023.

A quote from *Troublesome Words* (Bill Bryson, 1984):

"BARBECUE is the only acceptable spelling in serious writing. Any journalist or other formal user of English who believes that the word is spelled barbeque or, worse still, bar-b-q, is not ready for unsupervised employment..."

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
Feb 2023	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	19	BBQ Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
	22	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
Mar 2023	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	19	Chairman's Run	TBA	TBA	
	29	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
Apr 2023	12	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	16	Twilight Run	TBA	TBA	
	26	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
May 2023	10	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	14	Twilight Run	TBA	TBA	
	31	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
July 2023	9	Swap Meet	7am	Paradise Valley Raceway	

www.rvvcc.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.

Lakefront Car Show 2023



December High Tea Run

