

# SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the  
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND  
VETERAN CAR CLUB

JULY 2020



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

# JUNE 2020 CLUB RUN



# SIDE CURTAINS - July 2020

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

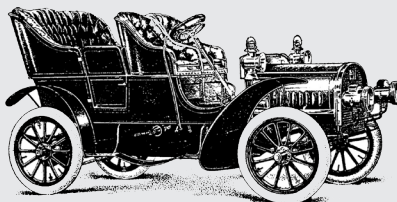
**Side Curtains Editor** - David Tomlinson  
rvvcc.editor@gmail.com

**Beaded Wheels** - Ronald Mayes

**Librarian** - Dennis Kenny  
**Asst Librarian** - Roger Couchman  
**Asst Librarian** - John Kirkland  
**Cards/Flowers** - Doreen Green

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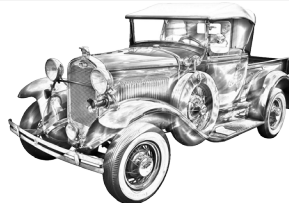


## Cover Photos

Front - Checkpoint on the June Run  
Back - June Club Run & Prize Giving

## 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

## - June 2020

*by David Tomlinson*



A sense of normality is slowly returning to branch activities, but we still have a few challenges ahead.

At our AGM in June things went smoothly, and the existing committee was returned to office unchanged. We appointed Dennis Kenny to be our new branch librarian and discussion was held regarding the Swap Meet and the Sulphur City Rally.

I am pleased to say we will have a Swap Meet this year, it will be held on Sunday, 27 September 2020, at the usual venue. We have already had good feedback on this date from vendors and potential attendees. While it should be warmer and dryer than our usual July date, it should be noted daylight saving kicks in early that morning so it will be a little tougher getting out of bed on time. If the event is a success, consideration may be given to keeping this date beyond this year for the Swap Meet.

Since we have moved the Swap Meet to September, a gap opened up in our July calendar, so Roger and Diana, with help from Angie and others, have kindly arranged that the Night Run we missed in April will be our July club run. This will be on Saturday the 11th, with dinner starting at 5.30pm followed by the run, then dessert. As this event has slipped past our prize giving window, we will look at handing out the trophy as early as on the night if this is possible, as we will likely run the 2021 Night Run in its usual April slot. Thanks to all those helping put this event together. On club night we will try to sort out catering numbers.

Regarding the Sulphur City Rally, it will not likely be possible for a number of reasons to put on our traditional event, but after further input from members at July's club night the committee will try and put a plan in place at our next meeting. One option would be to hold a "VCC National Day" event on the weekend already planned, and include cars from other local clubs (single marque, rodders etc) and members of the public with interesting cars to take part. Some thought and planning would have to go into such an event.

We will also assist with Daffofil Day deliveries on Tuesday, 25 August, if you are able to help please contact Angie. While it is great to use a club vehicle for this, if your only option is a modern that is fine too. It may be that we need a few people to help others too, as it is important that there are at least two people in each delivery vehicle.

Please note that although more or less the same committee and other helpers roster have been returned at the AGM, the branch's activities to need to come from a wider base. The midweekers are looking for fresh input for activities, and also note that generally the midweek run will now always be the last Wednesday of the month, notwithstanding having to give some space for the Sulphur City Rally and Swap Meet in upcoming months.

We still have no Club Captain, a role that primarily involves looking after our main activities calendar. With a number of runs "self-planning", such as the Chairman's Run, BBQ & Night Runs, Sulphur City, Swap Meet etc, it is not an arduous role, and can involve a lot of co-opting. We would also cope with the Club Captain not being able to attend committee meetings regularly if that's what it will take to successfully fill the role.

Regarding the short and medium term future of activities while the pandemic rages on overseas, it does appear many major events are being postponed still, but I see the Beach Hop has been planned to take place in November, but the VCC Festival Of Motoring has been set back to January 2022. Locally a lot of motels are being filled by MSD and some hotels by incoming quarantined travellers, so major events in Rotorua will be troublesome in the near future. At the time of writing this column we are still unsure if the Village Green will be available for the Lakefront Car Show in January 2021, but even with all the works going on beside it, it is still hosting big events currently.

I believe we have a real chance to make the Lakefront Car Show a real “Rotorua” event this coming year, with so many other events gone and international tourists thin on the ground for a long time to come. I will endeavour to get a greater level of support from the Council this coming year, as this year we brought in many hundreds of people, and they spent their money here. So many other events such as amusement arcades and gypsy fairs take the money away from our community, I hope our Council can start to understand the real value of our showcase event.

This coming club night we will have Doug Green display his 1929 Graham-Paige in the clubrooms, and I will give a talk with lots of photos on the big screen of parts of the trip young Sean and I took around the UK this past Christmas period, without referencing the many cars or aircraft museums we visited. It will be about many famous landmarks of general interest from Portsmouth in the south to Liverpool, via parts of Wales as we travelled north.

I hope to see a good turnout at the July club night!

# FROM THE SECRETARY

by  
*Dennis Whimp*



You will not see much of me at club events for the next few months as I am having treatment for lung cancer so am tending to more isolation. And I thought I had just a mild lung infection from too much dusty work in the shed. I am still contactable by phone and email, or drop in as I feel perfectly normal.

Further to Ronald's comments on firms that provide good service for our vehicles:

Neilsen at Design Upholstery is currently making an excellent job on upholstering my Buick roadster. He has upholstered over 150 pre 1948 vehicles including the Jaguar XK 150S that won the Ellerslie concourse some years ago. I know that many of our club vehicles have had Neilsen work on them.

Best Insulation has folded up a number of steel and stainless bits for me accurately and in some cases while I waited. An excellent service.

Those of you who have been in the club for a while will remember Snow and Gladys Greaves who were heavily involved in the clubs early days including the clubhouse build and alterations. They moved to Tauranga some years ago. Snow passed away a few years ago and in late June Gladys passed away.

## **PRIZE GIVING 2020**

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

**Fleet Trophy (Most Rallied Post Vintage) - Ralph Bennett**

**Trevor Burns Trophy (Most Rallied Post-War Vintage)**

1st Terry Wadsworth & Chrissie Cooper

2nd Neil & Sharon Handley, 3rd Dennis Kenny

**Kiwi Cup Most Rallied Post 1960**

1st Ronald Mayes

2 David Tomlinson, 3rd = Terry Wadsworth & John Peters

**Ken & Lynn Rowson Trophy P80 - Pat Burr**

**McGill Trophy (Night Run) - This will be presented in July**

**Johnson Trophy (Club Captains Run) - Not presented**

**Mowbray Cup (BBQ Run)**

1st Kevin & Maryanne Scott

2nd Bill & Adelai Skelton, 3rd Ronald & Gloria Mayes

**Cliff & Shona Wickham Trophy (Chairman's Run)**

1st Kevin Scott

2nd Terry Wadsworth & Chrissie Cooper

3rd Pat Burr & Shona Wickham

**Lakeland Ford Trophy – (Most Rallied Ford) - Kevin & Maryann Scott**

**Norman Honour Trophy (Lady Navigator) - Adelai Skelton**

**Harry Lapwood Cup (Male Navigator) - Jim Maud**

**Caulfield Cup (Novice Member – less 2 years in Club) - Not presented**

**Mathias Cup (Most Aggregate Points for Year)**

1st Bill Skelton, 2nd Ronald Mayes, 3rd Terry Wadsworth

**Anglis Cup (Significant contribution to the branch)**

Dennis Whimp



## An MG Princess? *by Ronald Mayes*

I have enough trouble explaining to people that my 1964 Princess 1100 is not an Austin but a Vanden Plas product, but what does our editor do but print a copy, on page 4 of the June issue, of the front page of a brochure for an MG Princess 1100!



But it really was a case of extreme British Motor Corporation badge engineering. They were trying to sell 1100s in America and hit upon the idea of an upmarket version. The Vanden Plas name was unknown there (rather like N.Z.!) so they renamed some as MGs, a name well known in the States, with suitable badges front and rear, and MG 1100 hubcaps. They even printed MG-labelled leather-bound handbooks for the cars, and an unknown number of doctored brochures.

The records show 156 left hand drive cars were built, 124 with sliding steel sunroofs, and 36 with heated rear windows. In 1965 one each went to Canada and, of all places, Puerto Rico, and the rest were sent to MG agents all over the United States. The chapter about the model in Vanden Plas by Bryan Peebles concludes with the sentence “The MG Princess 1100 was not a sales success.”

## JUNE CLUB RUN / AGM / PRIZE GIVING

Our “big day” in June was held in the most magnificent sunny conditions. It started off with a “poker run” with a twist, organised by Neville and Carol Harper and a team of volunteers running various checkpoints. Basically you got a map, 5 destinations to collect tokens, with a recommended starting location to reach. Other than that, it was just take any routes you wanted, drive safely, and don’t be late back for lunch! At each checkpoint you grabbed 5 coloured tokens from a container, sight unseen, and recorded them on a rally sheet. There were 5 different colours. Once everyone was safely back (our car only got lost once, thank goodness for the map!) and sheets were handed in, the 5 colours were randomly drawn from a container, with the first one drawn being worth 1 point, and so on until 5 points. Then we all added up our scores, with the winners being Alan and Georgie Judd in their E Type Jaguar. It was a very enjoyable event, well planned and well managed on the day. Thank you to all the members that helped out.

We then had a picnic lunch at the clubrooms, with many people outside even in June thanks to the very warm sunny day. After lunch we conducted a quick and uneventful AGM, then moved on to a general meeting as this was also a combined “club night” event. This was equally swift and uneventful. Maybe being well fed before meetings keeps everyone calm and reasoned?

We then moved on to prizegiving where many of the usual suspects loaded up their arms with silverware, with a few others also taking home some well earned trophies. The Anglis Cup for service to the branch for the last 12 months was awarded to Dennis Whimp. As the Night Run was not conducted in time for prize giving, it will be awarded straight after the event, and will be run again at the usual time next year so it is included in our prize giving then.

# FOR SALE

We have received the following by email, described as a “trailer cars” that have been dry stored for 15 plus years in Cambridge. The seller’s name is James Godwin, ph 021301127 or email at james@grsnz.co.nz

## **1990 Alfa Romeo 164. 3litre SOHC V6**

Straight and original, Auto, Aircon, Heated seats, Self-levelling rear suspension, hide away roller blinds for the rear screen, electric windows, it appears to have everything except the factory sunroof. The body is electro galvanized thus rust free. Idling in the driveway one day about to go out and the cambelt let go, so it is for sale as is. Everything needed is easy to get I simply don't have the time. Shopping list: Head gasket set, Replacement Valves anywhere from two to six as it was only idling when it stopped. I have fitted a new Cambelt Tensioner and I have the new Cambelt. CV joints need a look, VIN VIC WOF REG it was NZ new so re registration will be no problem. Price \$900 ono

## **HC Viva Magnum HQ6434 project vehicle**

This car is rare. All of its underpinnings would easily accept twice the standard engine output without having to do anything to brakes or differential. There is quite a lot of panel work to do but the floor pan, is straight and rust free, the rust is cosmetic not structural. The car is complete apart from the driver side passenger door glass which was carefully removed for another car over 20 years ago, the car has been dry stored since 1996 in all that time it has never been wet. Engine;- 1800 Vauxhall Slant 4 SOHC

It would be easy to get it started service it and leave it as standard obviously a set of valve springs wouldn't be silly, this engine didn't burn oil when I used to drive it and it had to be an ok motor because it is fitted with a CNG kit. There is a spare long block condition unknown.

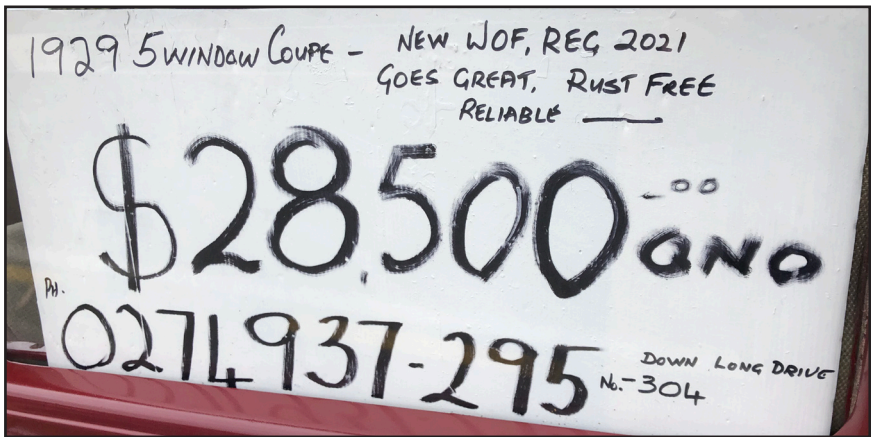
Driveshaft has CV joints for high efficiency.

Suspension;- Double A arm front and four link rear, coils all round.



# FOR SALE

A number of people have mentioned seeing a Ford Model A coupé at the side of the road in Ngongotaha with a FOR SALE sign on it. I finally saw it myself this past week, it is a LHD coupe with dickey set. I have heard the motor running, it appears in good order overall, with a 12 volt conversion and had been recently at Ajay Ford. A photo of the car and for sale notice below. The owner, Tony, has a number of vintage Fords.



# CLUB NIGHT - July 8th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1929 Graham-Paige

Speaker: David Tomlinson - Winter UK trip

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

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## **Night Run** - *Saturday, July 11th - 5.30pm*

This year's Night Run is a few months late due to the pandemic. There will be a "pea, pie & pud" type meal at the club rooms starting at 5.30pm, followed by the Night Run, then dessert back at the clubrooms. There is a charge of \$10pp for dinner. As we missed handing out the trophy for this event at Prize Giving in June we will do our best to hand it out after dessert on the night. If you are coming but cannot let us know at the July club night can you please contact the Secretary or Angie so we can make sure there is enough food for everyone.

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## **Midweekers** - **Wednesday 29th July** *by Bob Mackay*

We will meet at the club rooms for morning tea at 10am before driving to a café for lunch. I make little apology for only arranging café runs rather than places or collections of interest but after over five years arranging monthly midweek runs I am out of ideas. While I am still prepared to arrange a café run I remind members that we are overdue for some one to replace me and bring fresh ideas to the group.

Please note that midweek runs will in future be held on the last Wednesday of the month.



# COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
July 2020	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	11	Night Run	5.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	29	Midweekers Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
Aug 2020	12	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	19	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
	25	Daffodil Deliveries	TBA	TBA	
	29	Sulphur City Rally	TBA	TBA	
Sep 2020	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	16	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
	27	Swap Meet	7am	Paradise Valley Raceway	
Oct 2020	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	18	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	28	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	

[www.rotoruaVintageCarClub.org.nz](http://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.

# JUNE 2020 CLUB RUN



# June Club Run & Prize Giving

