

# SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the  
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND  
VETERAN CAR CLUB

MARCH 2018



**WE'RE NOW ON FACEBOOK !**

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

# BBQ Run, February 2018



# SIDE CURTAINS - March 2018

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

**Treasurer** - Terry Fitzpatrick

**Club Captain** - vacant

**Asst. Club Captain** - Kevin Scott

## Committee

Bob Mackay

Roger Nelson

John Peters

Lois Thompson

Terry Wadsworth

Cliff Wickham

**Mid Weekers** - Bob Mackay

**Side Curtains Editor** - David Tomlinson

rvcc.editor@gmail.com

**Beaded Wheels** - Ronald Mayes

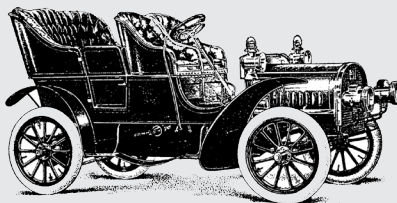
**Librarian** - Roger Couchman

**Asst Librarian** - John Kirkland

**Cards/Flowers** - Doreen Green

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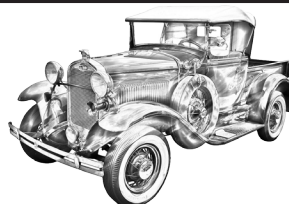
## Cover Photos

Front - The Burr's 1930 Dodge

Back - February Midweekers

## 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

## - February 2018

*by David Tomlinson*



It is with great sadness I have to record the passing of Denis Burr in February. The photo on the front cover of this issue is of the Burr's 1930 Dodge at Pukehina in December last year on the Posh Picnic Run. We will have an item on Denis' involvement with the branch in the next issue of Side Curtains. I am sure all branch members will join me in passing on our condolences to Pat and their family.

In February we had our annual BBQ run, which was technically the 2017 event but I think shifting it to the warmer time of year is a good move. We had about 13 cars take part, and I even had a "boys vs girls" competition, with Fleur and Kate in one car, and Sean and I in another. The run included a scavenger hunt portion, which was very enjoyable and entertaining. I am not sure EFTPOS receipts in the items bag was 'kosher', but I will confess to swapping items with others before the end of the run. We also attended the excellent Brit-Euro Car Show in Auckland in early March, and I have written about this later in this issue.

March Club Night will feature a 50th Year badge presentation by the VCC North Island Club Captain to Peter Stanaway, and we will also be given a presentation on a tour of Route 66 in the USA recently undertaken by a group of BoP branch members.

See also in this issue that the Chairman's Run have an unusual starting point. This is a run where you can win a trophy, but you don't have to set next year's (unless you put your name down for Chairman at the AGM!).

Next month's Night Run will be held on Sunday, 15 April, plotted by last year's winner Ronald Mayes. Dinner will be served before the run with dessert to follow at \$10 per person. Please contact Angie or Lois for catering purposes.

Our 2018 AGM is only 2 months away, please if you are interested in standing for committee, or wanting to put business forward, let me or a committee member know so we can make sure you get paperwork in on time. We are looking for a Club Captain and Midweek Co-Ordinator. Full training and assistance given!

# Club Night - February 2018

*by Dennis Whimp*

Our February club night guest speaker was our own Kevin Scott.

Kevin confidently assumed the role of a university science professor and took us back into the science lab to give us an explanation as to why his job makes him a dairy cow's best friend.

He specialises in providing knowledge and selling all things that go in to making excellent silage. That's the stuff in all those big round air tight plastic wrapped bales that we see all over rural New Zealand. They weigh in at around 800kg each.

Kevin's focus is ensuring the fermentation process is as rapid as possible to maintain the maximum nutrients in the finished dry silage. He explained that the cutting and drying of the maize plus the cutting into small pieces during harvesting into the correct lengths of around 15mm are all critical. As the grasses or maizes are harvested, Kevin's companies patented bacterial inoculant is sprayed on. This promotes rapid bacterial growth to use up all the oxygen and drop the final pH so that the final silage has enough sugars and nutrients that cows love eating it. This good silage can retain up to 80% of the original grasses food value and is great to keep cows milking. On the other hand, hay has zero food value but is good for bulk.

Facts and figures were non-stop, informative and fascinating. I would need to hear it again to make sure my potted summary above is correct. But it gave me a new appreciation of how smart our farmers have to be in converting crops to milk or meat and how great it must be to have people like Kevin assisting them.

# FROM THE SECRETARY

*by*  
*Dennis Whimp*



## Welcome To Our New Members

Henry & Nicky van Twuiver    Hamurana    1936 Ford Deluxe saloon

Alan Judd    Hamurana    1963 Jaguar Mk 2 saloon  
1967 Jaguar E Type 2+2

Great to see both at the January Lakefront car show and we look forward to your further participation in branch events.

## Clubroom Use

We have a wonderful well fitted out clubhouse that is available for branch member's use. The rally for the Studebaker nationals on Sunday 1st April will have lunch at the clubrooms. Angie is arranging the lunch and Neville and Carol the run.

The following weekend has the clubrooms used for a youth with parents with cancer workshop overseen by new member Andrea Baguley. Later in the year, Ronald is using it for a model train meet.

Use is approved by the committee and generally subject to a small charge.

## Vehicle Identification Card (VIC) photos

National has reminded all that VIC photos must be 9cm by 13 cm and not the standard 10 by 15cm. This is to fit in with the card size and their filing system. If you can't get them printed to this size, they must be trimmed to the size ensuring all the vehicle is still in the photo. Three identical photos are required.

## Around and About

- John Kirkland has changed one Ford for another. The Model T truck project has gone to Tauranga and he now has a nice motoring 1961 Prefect
- Keitha Couchman is laid up with a broken leg. We wish you a speedy recovery
- If you have changed your email address because of the Codaphone or any other issue, can you please email me your new one to rotorua@vcc.org.nz
- The Tractor club approached us a couple of days before their open day to help with parking. Thanks to John Peters, Roger Nelson, Terry Fitzpatrick, JK and Dennis Whimp who were able to help. The Tractor club had a huge day on the corner of Oturoa Road at the Mamakus but this is likely to be their last on that site because the farm is for sale.

## Adjacent Rallies

There are entry forms on the notice board for the

- Waikato Mooloo Meander 6-7 April
- Taranaki Maunga-Moana Rally 20-21 April

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*Police pulled over a likely young lad in his average looking car, and were suprised to find it was both warranted and registered.*

*It wasn't stolen, there were no stolen items or other contraband of concern inside either. The driver was sober, polite, had a full driver's licence and had never had any demerit points.*

*A police spokesperson said, "We had no option but to fine him \$120 for wasting police time..."*

# Motoring Mad in Vietnam by Bob Mackay

Vietnam proved very interesting in many ways, but here I will keep to motoring matters that are so different.

Our first introduction was on leaving the airport in a shuttle van, first blow the horn, and apparently just keep blowing it, at anything that moves or person that is either coming your way or getting near you, I refer of course mainly to the people movers (motor scooters) with Dad, Mum and two (maybe three) kids on one scooter. Mum and Dad both wear (normally but not always) the regulatory crash helmet, but apparently the kids are better at surviving so they are not required to wear helmets. These scooters can also double up to be used as a freight truck carrying huge loads.

With what looked like gridlock everything seemed to still keep moving, the scooters of course always seem to be getting there first, they just come past on both sides and across the front of the shuttle, don't forget to keep an eye out for the one travelling in the wrong direction, there are plenty of those.



We arrived safely at the hotel and decided to take a walk, at this point we found that we just did not know how to cross the road, the traffic lights go red, the green pedestrian lights up, the cars might stop but not the scooters, hundreds of them fly by beeping their horns, we are still standing on the pavement, so we continue round the block past the armed guards at the American Embassy and back to the hotel.

So what are the road rules? There aren't any, well at least not until something goes wrong. We soon found out that scooters can turn right



(traffic normally drives on the right) against the traffic lights. So to cross the road you wait for a small enough gap to step on to the road and move at a constant speed, (don't stop, it can be fatal) and they just go round you, sometimes very close but don't stop or the next one may get you. While this is all happening there is still the chorus of horns from the one handed scooter drivers, the other hand is busy texting on the smart phone.

Being the Tet Festival (Vietnamese New year) with shops and work places closed the younger people return to visit their families so the main roads everywhere were crowded with motor scooters, some travelling up to 850 km each way with up to four on each scooter.

Driving the open road is not for the faint hearted, as overtaking on the bends on wrong side of the road happens regularly, no one gets upset about it, they just slow a little and every one beeps the horn to warn others where they are and move over. In the south our bus took us over 1400km with a very steady and safety conscious driver while the second bus in Hanoi drove like young kiwis is a Suzuki, gee it rocked.

### Other interesting facts:

*By law - buses carrying passengers have to have a paid assistant besides the driver.*

*Cars over 7 years old and scooters over 13 years are not allowed on the road, so they have a very modern and tidy fleet with no visible damage or smoky engines.*

*Foreigners are not allowed to drive until they have been in Vietnam for at least three months and then must pass Vietnam Test. (this is a new rule that came into effect late last year).*

*Road toll over 8,000 deaths a year. Population over 90 million (work it out- about the same rate as New Zealand?)*

PS: You never know where a Vintage Car Club Spring Tour will lead you to, in our case a few drinks in Whanganui and we on the way to Vietnam.



## February Midweekers Run *by Ronald Mayes*

Six cars: two Morris Minors, and one each BMW, Holden, Triumph and Toyota, with a total of 14 souls on board (including Lachie the dog) turned up at the clubrooms for morning tea on 28 February.

Maurie had worked out the route we were to take and had copies of the menu for the cafe where we to have lunch - we had to decide then what we wanted and he phoned the cafe with the details.

The route took us out past the airport and Okere Falls, then we turned off on to Maniatutu Road. "Only a few kilometres of gravel road" he said, but 10 km clocked up on our odometer before we once again hit smooth tar seal. The gravel road, like the proverbial curate's egg, had some quite good parts especially where the wheel-tracked surface was smooth, but some of the thicker gravel bits had corrugations which could have tested the strength of Mark I Ford Zephyrs' half shafts if their drivers had poured on too much power. We passed not one other vehicle on that section and up in the hills took in the views which we had not had time to observe on a previous Sulphur City rally.

Back down on the flat we headed to Maketu and after a follow-the-leader convoy up over a hill and back down to sea level we ended up in the carpark next to the beach and estuary and our cafe where we enjoyed our lunch with the view of the sea and its cooling breeze. After patiently waiting for the humans to have their lunch Lockie spent some time on the beach following all sorts of exciting smells.

Home again via the main highway, where the Triumph 2500 had the chance to enjoy the improved performance from its new electronic ignition system, and back in Rotorua in time to get caught up in the 3pm school traffic congestion. A circuitous detour to avoid Malfroy Road, however, meant we got home without delays.

Thanks to Maurie for stepping in to organize an enjoyable day out.

# BUY - SELL - SWAP

**For Sale:** Valvoline ATF Type F automatic transmission fluid, 2 x 4 litre bottles, new and unopened, for Ford and Borg Warner Type 35 transmissions and European and Japanese transmissions specifying Type F or Type G fluids. Bargain at sale price \$35-00 each. (I had bought the wrong type for my overhauled BW35 transmission which now requires Dexron III.)

New Bosch GL769 Contact Set and GL179 Condenser for 1970s BMC and Triumph cars, \$10-00 each.

Roof rack, lightweight German Engelmann brand. Wide adjustment range for gutter mounting, 75kg load limit (has been used on a Triumph 2500.) Excellent condition \$75-00 ono

Ronald Mayes, 347 8490, randgmayes@gmail.com

**Wanted to buy:** Front over rider for BMC 1100/1300. Must be excellent, with no rust, dents or scratches.

Ronald Mayes, 07 347 8490, randgmayes@gmail.com

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## Coolants for Old Cars by Ronald Mayes

The other day member rang asking about suitable antifreeze for his 1970s car, after remembering I had written on the subject some years ago - modern long-life products with organic acid technology (OAT) constituents can attack old seals, gaskets etc, and the advice I had gleaned was to go for products with phosphate pH buffers.

I told him about the Peak Green brand original type coolant I had used, then decided I should buy some more for our cars. Shock, horror! Nothing except the modern stuff in Repco or Supercheap but we found it in Mitre 10. \$33 for 3.85 litres (1 US gallon) of concentrate and you get a little discount by waving your Supergold card - a small number of our members may be old enough to have a card - and diluted 33% in water is satisfactory for most applications. Don't use Rotorua tap water, it is full of calcium silicate. Buy deionised water or as I do because I am tight ar\*ed, collect rain water during our regular downpours - it should be relatively pure.

# Brit-Euro Car Show 2018 *by David Tomlinson*

This year was the 3rd Brit-Euro Car Show, held at Lloyd Elsmore Park in Howick, Auckland. Over 830 cars were on display, mostly from single marque car clubs, but also other clubs and a few independent exhibitors. A few motorbikes were on display too.

The show is free to display and free to attend, and has live radio on site, food vendors and a few commercial sponsors selling their wares.

It is a very low key event, with cars displayed in groups around a tree lined park, and members of the public and the car owners having several hours to meander around the hundreds of vehicles on display. These included several Bugattis, Aston-Martins, a rare Scottish Arrol-Johnson, a 6 cylinder motorcycle, a few race cars, we were even treated to a small circuit on the grass by a 1905 De Dion Bouton.

There were dozens of Ferraris, Austin-Healeys, Fords, Citroens, VWs, Rovers, MGs, Jaguars, Austins, Morris', Mercedes-Benz's and a few Lamborghinis, TVRs, Reliants, Opels, Sunbeams to name just a few.

Weather was great, this was the second year I have displayed my Bentley with the Rolls-Royce & Bentley club. Last year I took up Sean and Kate, this year Fleur and Alex joined us too. There were lots of things for the kids to do including prize competitions and the Howick Historic Village next door, the time flew by and it was time to leave before we knew it.

I met several Auckland and Hamilton owners I knew, a few cars had come from out of town like ours, and the weather was great all day.

I will definitely be back next year, and have some ideas from their successes that we can look to include at our Lakefront Car Show. I highly recommend this as one of the best shows for classic cars, old and not so old. The cars are generally original or restored, and as big of a collection as you will ever see in once place in New Zealand.

# CLUB NIGHT - March 14th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Speaker: BOP Branch visitors on Route 66 tour in USA

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits

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## Chairman's Run - 18th March 2018

Due to the Rotorua Walking Festival being held on the weekend of the Chairman's Run starting at Neil Hunt Park, and the Chairman attending the VCC Executive Meeting the following weekend, the Chairman's Run will start from 14 Hall Rd in Ngongotaha, muster at 10am for the first car away at 10.15am. The run will avoid the Festival, and will take in sights around the north west of Rotorua. At its conclusion there will be light refreshments and tea and coffee back at the start point. The run will take around 90 minutes, and has a very short 1km section of metal road in the course.

14 Hall Rd is a large yellow commercial building just up the road and opposite the Ngongotaha Four Square. Parking can be had on the road outside, or around the back of the building.

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## Upcoming Midweek Runs *by Bob Mackay*

### *Wednesday March 28th Midweek run*

We will meet at Ngongotaha Fire Station and leave at 10.15am travelling to Hamilton Gardens for a choice of a picnic or café lunch. After lunch we can visit the gardens that hopefully should be showing their autumn colours. (Unfortunately the earlier indication that there may be a small collection to visit is not available this month but is now arranged for April).

### *Midweek Run Thursday 26th April 2018*

**Note the change of Day.** This is due to Anzac Day being on the Wednesday. The April run will take us to Taupo, details of the run will appear in the April Side Curtains.



# COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
March	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	18	Chairman's Run	10am	14 Hall Rd, Ngongotaha	11
	28	Midweekers Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
April	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	15	Night Run	TBA	Clubrooms	
	26	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	11
May	9	AGM / Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	13	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	23	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
June	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	Run & Prize Giving	TBA	TBA	
	27	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
July	4	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	8	Swap Meet	7am	Paraside Valley	
	25	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
August	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	25	Sulphur City Rally	8.30am	Clubrooms	
	29	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	

## 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.

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

The branch website aims to meet the needs of our members, and to promote our branch nationally, and to potential new members. If you have any suggestions for improvements please contact David Tomlinson.

# Brit-Euro Car Show in Auckland - 2018



# February Midweekers

