

# SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the  
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND  
VETERAN CAR CLUB

MARCH 2020



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

# Chairman's Run, February 2020



# SIDE CURTAINS - March 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

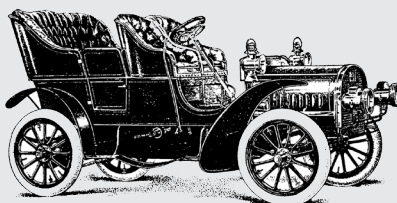
**Asst Librarian** - Roger Couchman

**Asst Librarian** - John Kirkland

**Cards/Flowers** - Doreen Green

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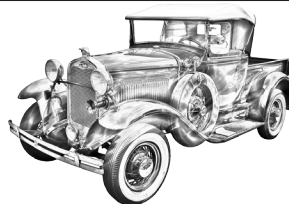
## Cover Photos

Front - February Midweekers

Back - February Midweekers bush walk

## 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 2020

*by David Tomlinson*



Our February club night featured a talk by Evan Dorrington on travel before the invention of the internal combustion engine, particularly around and between Europe and North America.

The day after our February club night I travelled to my 8th Brits At The Beach, which kicked off with a parade on the old Kopu Bridge near Thames on Friday morning. We then did a run around the Whangamata area using Google Maps on phones, which worked out well for me as I was by myself, and all the directions were audible. The show after the end of the Grand Parade on Saturday morning featured about 250 cars. Amazingly, not one Morris Minor! Dennis Whimp, Neville Harper and Jim Maud were visitors to the event, and amongst the interesting British cars were a Vanden Plas 3 Litre Princess, a Ford Consul Capri, a 1963 Austin Cooper with one family owner from new (which also won "car of the show") and a late arriving Bristol





401. A number of owners at Brits commented that our Lakefront Car Show in January was now a “must” on their calendar, and the best event they take part in each year, which was great to hear. The weather was fantastic throughout the whole event.

The following weekend we had the Chairman’s Run, which left from my workshop in Ngongotaha and went on the western backroads between Tirau and Lichfield. We ended up having a picnic lunch on the veranda of our hosts’ house, the Mathis’. We got to see their collection of Essex cars (including a “survivor” 1919 tourer), and their Land Rovers and an old Daimler. Again the weather played its part in making it an enjoyable day out.

At the end of the month I travelled up to Auckland and displayed a car on the Rolls-Royce and Bentley club display at the 5th Brit-Euro show. This year they used up more of Lloyd Elsmore Park in Howick than ever, with over 1200 cars on display, which included over 100 Jaguars. One of the Jags was a new “continuation” XKSS, the only one in New Zealand from a very limited production run. I believe it is owned by the Giltrap family, who had their beginnings in Rotorua.

Amongst the hundreds of cars, many of which are regular attendees, was a Ferrari Daytona coupe, an East German Trabant, a 1970s Mercedes 450SEL 6.9 (big V8!) and quite a range of Alvis cars. Alvis owners are celebrating the marque’s birth 100 years ago this year. There were many Minis on display, including a number from the Tauranga Mini Club, lots of MGs, Austins and Morris’ and many Land Rovers, old and new. The weather was sunny but a cool breeze made the day pass by without too much discomfort. This is certainly a very enjoyable even to be a part of.

I will miss both our club night and BBQ Run this month as Fleur

and I will celebrate our first wedding anniversary in Australia for a few days, and our monthly committee meeting will be set back a week. Our March club night will feature a large 1978 Lincoln as the car in the room.

The start of the BBQ Run will be away from the clubrooms due to an event run by one of our neighbours. The start point will be the carpark on Long Mile Rd, just a wee bit further up Tarawera Rd from the clubrooms entrance, on the right side of the road. The run will end with a BBQ supper away from the clubrooms, BYO drinks, and the cost of the BBQ is \$10 per person.

Plans for April's Night Run are well in hand, the run will be set by last year's winners, Roger & Diana Nelson. The run will be held a little later to avoid clashing with the Easter holiday break, so the start will be at the clubrooms for a pea, pie and pud dinner from 6pm on Saturday, April 18th. As with the BBQ Run, it is BYO drinks and \$10 per person for the dinner.

I hope clubnight and the BBQ run are well attended while we are away, I look forward to being back for the April club night and the Night Run, and leave you with another pic from the Alfa Romeo Museum I visited in January, the 1914 "Aerodinamica".



# FROM THE SECRETARY

by  
*Dennis Whimp*



Great to see new member Les Martin bring to the car show not only the 1959 Chev Apache pickup that he joined us with, but his latest purchase, a lovely condition 1957 Chevrolet two door handyman station wagon. Les is the second NZ owner and as with all these American vehicles of this era, if you are not shown where the fuel filler is, you would never find it. (behind a rotating section of the rear chromed fin).

Ken Rowson said getting out of the Jaguar XJS was becoming more difficult as it seemed to be getting lower to the ground.

Maybe your joints are seizing up Ken. It has been replaced with an immaculate 420 hp Jaguar V8 supercharged all aluminium body and frame saloon that has air suspension. The perfect car to go ticket collecting in.



Sad to see Neville and Carol's 1931 Studebaker President 90 disappear on a flatbed truck to a new owner in the lower South Island. It had been part of the Rotorua branch for 37 years. Car shows seem to be more and more popular. Art Deco in Napier had a wonderful collection of over 350 cars of all ages (pre 1945) and condition with some rarely seen top Duesenberg, Cord, Auburn, V16 Cadillac phaeton, Rolls-



Royce Silver Ghost makes mixing it with Model A's and Morris 8s. Amongst the very smartly dressed Art Deco crew I spotted Neville and later Alan Judd. People spotting was just as interesting as car spotting because of the fantastic outfits they were wearing.

I understand that Auckland Brit and Euro show had over 1200 vehicles on display. I guess that that means our January car show can only get bigger.



Our AGM is only 2 months away. It is the time to let us know if you are happy the way the branch is being run. And if you would like to be part of the committee, let one of us know. We would really like a club captain to co-ordinate the monthly runs and things like the Daffodil delivery in August.

Hopefully the concrete at the rear of the clubrooms will be completed by clubnight. They took away a truckload of leaf and acorn detritus that had rotted in between the building and the retaining wall.

Thanks to John Peters for fixing the leaking dishwasher and repairing the brittle failing electrical connectors. The dishwasher is a good brand commercial one but must be over 40 years old. It is starting to need attention just like our old cars do.

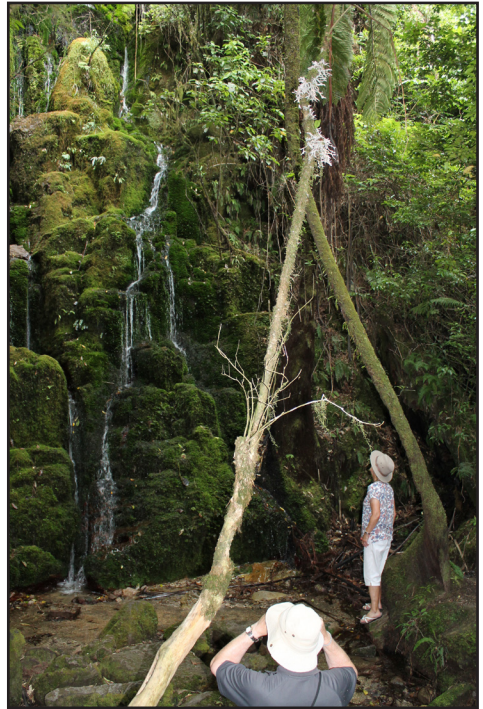
## FEBRUARY MID-WEEK RUN *by Ronald Mayes*

This run was modified at short notice. As originally planned it would have been somewhat similar to the previous Sunday drive. Instead, Bob had a good number of us driving in surprisingly light traffic conditions to Lake Okataina. There we enjoyed our picnic lunches in the shade and with views of the placid lake and bush-clad hills.

Bill and Adelai had planned the after-lunch programme. They seem to know every hiking track in the region and this time we followed them to the nearby outdoor centre from where we took a 1.8km walk through the native forest to an escarpment so high we could not see the top through the trees. From it cascaded a waterfall with a surprising flow considering the dry conditions. A nearby glow worm colony awaits a night visit.

Back to our sun-baked cars (some had wisely brought modern air-conditioned vehicles!) after the coolness of the bush, for the drive home. The Skeltons in their 1990s Corolla left us in the Triumph 2000 behind, but that was really because we were stuck in a queue behind a very erratically and slow-driven modern rental car. Oh well, the 2000 did get some much-needed open-road speed exercise.

The cars on the run included the usual English, German and Australian regulars, but Les and Thelma had their Ford Model A roadster, Ralph his 1938 Buick which is in fine fettle after its mishap on a run last year, and Graham with his 1967 Chevrolet.





# Brits At The Beach 2020 in Whangamata





# Brits At The Beach 2020 in Whangamata



# FOR SALE

Four Radial Tyres - For Sale  
“As Brand New” - Size 185 x 15”  
Also one as a spare - \$350 the lot  
Phone Ralph on 07 362 8075

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1974 Triumph Toledo 1500, in good order. White with blue upholstery, new dark blue carpets and sheep skin covers on front seats. Three owners, rear wheel drive. WoF expires April, rego due September. No rust. Brought up from Geraldine last year, selling due to an old injury making it hard to drive a manual.



\$3500 - Phone Carole 07 578 9579 (Tauranga - BOP member)

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That indefinable mix of the aromas of leather, wood, fine woollen cloth, thick carpet (and money) which described the enjoyment of the smell of the interior of a new and expensive car before plastics intruded: “Kraftfahrzeugzinnenausstattungsneuwagengeruchsgenuss”.

Apparently a literal translation would be automobile-interior-furnishing-new-aroma-pleasure.

That snippet came from Classic and Sports Car magazine columnist Simon Taylor, writing in the January 2015 issue about how sub-editors interfere with writers’ copy, but that they would not have dared to change that word.

*Ronald Mayes*

# CLUB NIGHT - March 11th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1978 Lincoln

Followed by tea, coffee and Xmas treats.

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## **Upcoming Midweek Runs** *by Bob Mackay*

*March - Wednesday 25th*

Meet at the Club Rooms at 10am for morning tea. After morning tea we will tour some back roads to a café in the Waikato. I could only find modern roads, so sorry it is an all tar sealed run. Although it is all on good roads it will possibly be a bit slow in places. The distance is 53 miles and the direct route home to Rotorua will be 41 miles.

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## **BBQ Run** - *Sunday, March 15th*

Please note that the START POINT for the BBQ Run will be the carpark on Long Mile Rd (just up from clubrooms off Tarawera Rd on right). Start time 1pm for first car away around 1.30pm.

The run will conclude with a BBQ supper at a location away from the club rooms. Please bring \$10 per person for the BBQ supper. If you are unable to attend the Wednesday club night before the BBQ run can you please let secretary Dennis know you are intending to take part so we can make sure our catering plans are taken care of.



# COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
Mar 2020	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	15	BBQ Run	1pm	Long Mile Rd carpark	11
	25	Midweekers Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
Apr 2020	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	18	Night Run	6pm	Clubrooms	
	22	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
May 2020	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	27	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
June 2020	10	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	14	Run & Prize Giving	TBA	TBA	
	24	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	

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[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.

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## 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.

# Brit-Euro Show 2020 in Auckland

Clockwise from left:

Saab 95

Trabant

Rolls-Royce Corniche

Allard L Type

Lotus Europa

Ferrari Daytona

Tippen Delta IV





## February Midweekers

