

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

MAY 2017



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www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

Rotorua Motoring History



SIDE CURTAINS - May 2017

The magazine of the ROTORUA
VINTAGE AND VETERAN CAR CLUB

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Website: www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

Sun Alliance Agency Number: HO 0300146

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 - Angie Brunton

Asst. Club Captain - Kevin Scott

Committee

Lois Thompson

Terry Wadsworth

Steve De Jeu

Darryl Stretch

Roger Nelson

John Peters

Patron - Bob Mowbray

Mid Weekers - Bob Mackay

Side Curtains Editor - David Tomlinson

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Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

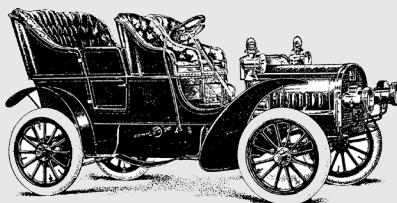
Librarian - Roger Couchman

Asst Librarian - John Kirkland

Cards/Flowers - Doreen Green

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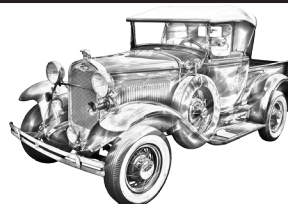
Cover Photos

Front - Night Run, April 2017

Back - Vintage cars for use in snow

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

- April 2017

by David Tomlinson



This month's club night is our AGM, and it is going to feature a good report on the club's finances, with a surplus for the last year that goes some way to righting the ship after a small deficit last year and a big deficit the year before. While some external elements affect the final outcome, not least of which weather at the Swap Meet, I think members should congratulate their branch committee on working hard throughout the year and delivering all the normal services and activities while managing to rein in costs.

This month has been very lean for photographic contributions! In fact, I received no club activity photos from members at all, and only took two myself. One was of our car in the room in April, but that car was featured on the cover of the last issue of Side Curtains, so the grainy photo on the cover of this issue was taken from my car during the Night Run, I think it was on Koutu Rd. The magazine is much nicer when full of photos, please take some when on club activities and send them in! As a consequence, I have filled some of the usual photo pages with various historical photos of Rotorua purloined off some of the motoring Facebook groups I belong to.

April's club run was the annual Night Run including a great meal at only \$10 per head. Between dinner and dessert around 10 club cars set off in the dark, and at least two had to retire, both with electrical problems. My trusty old Roller managed to work well all evening, but even with its rather good map reading light, Sean and I managed to get lost, and when we were on the right road again at last saw a procession of other club cars coming the other way! Oh well, we got back in time for ice cream, even if we did miss a lot of the questions.

So far this year, attendance has been generally very low on club runs, perhaps in part due to weather, but also due to clashes with other events and annual rallies at other branches. What do we need to do to improve participation? At this month's AGM I will raise this under general business. If the runs need to adapt to get more members along, let us know! It is

your branch, and your incoming committee will work towards making activities over the next year attract your involvement.

This month's run is the Club Captain's Run, and it will be a Poker Run followed by a Mother's Day afternoon tea. June's run will conclude with prize giving at the Distinction Hotel again, with a cost of \$16 per person for the afternoon tea. Last year was well attended and there was plenty of food left over.

Please note that July's club night has been brought forward to the first Wednesday of the month (the 5th) in order that we can finalise volunteers and instructions for the Swap Meet on July 9th.

I look forward to tendering my Annual Chairman's Report to this year's AGM and will look at the positivity of the last 12 months, and the one major improvement we must make for the future good of the branch.

Lastly, after updating my very old boat with another very old boat (so not much driving my cars lately) I finally ended a 15+ year bugbear of never having caught a brown trout in Lake Rotorua by landing a nice large 68cm fish which is currently in the taxidermist's freezer!

Prize Giving Rally June 18th 2017

Meet at the clubrooms at 1pm
First car away 1.30ish



Afternoon tea will be at the Distinction Hotel at 3pm

This rally will be a follow the leader with a little fun on the way
(weather permitting)

Please let us know if you are coming

Ring Jenny Gill 348 6825 or Lois 357 5799

Look forward to seeing you all

**Afternoon tea
\$16 pp**

FROM THE SECRETARY

by
Dennis Whimp



New Member - Doug Lambert

Doug has an original 1964 Rover 95 saloon. We look forward to seeing Doug and the Rover at our meetings and runs.

Donation to the Library

Dave Pannell who was an enthusiastic member of the club a number of years ago is relocating and has donated many boxes of Classic car and driver magazines plus large posters of vintage cars.

Other VCC Branch Magazines

We are getting very few hardcopy or email magazines from other branches. 32 branches have their magazines posted on the VCCNZ website under news from our branches. These all have Rally entry forms in so if you are looking for out of town rallies or parts sheds this is the place to look.

Troughton Estate Auction

I went to the pre-auction viewing and what an amazing collection. There had been 4 sheds full, with each shed being as big as the average house. Most of the big items had been parked in the paddocks. The Waikato Times reported that there were 300 to 500 people there each day and many of the prices exceeded expectations. The 1906 Ford Model N went for \$60,500. The 1941 Indian Scout army motorbike went for \$16,500 and the 1939 Chev coupe got \$27,000. I also understand through the grapevine that the 1928 Ford Model A tourer in very tidy original condition made \$26,000, the 1929 Graham Paige in similar condition and very straight only made \$12,000 but the 1956 BMW Isetta bubble car made \$35,000. And there was a lot of competition to get the stationary engines.

Midweek Run - 26th April

Pat and myself have been arranging the midweek run for a little over two years, over that time we have only done a full pre-run on two occasions, and on both times they have turned to custard. As it was so long since I had travelled some of the proposed roads (over 30 years) we did a pre run for this month's run through the hills as an alternative route to Tauranga.

Earlier in the April, following our pre-run there was some very heavy rain so on Sunday we decided that we needed to check the condition and access on a couple of roads, so we were well prepared for a successful day out to Café 'Four14 Espresso' for lunch. All was good, job done, ready to go!

Well not really, part of the route involved using a section of SH36, but following a serious truck accident on Monday, the road was closed to all traffic, should be open by Tuesday, just wishful thinking apparently, at the time of writing it is now hoped to be open late on Thursday but as they say the show must go on.

Having planned earlier than normal start at the club rooms there was plenty of time for an extended morning tea and lots of talking with the first car away at a time at well after 10.30am on a revised main road route via Te Puke and Welcome Bay Road. Maybe a little disappointing not to tour the back roads, but never the less everyone enjoyed the drive in 11 club cars and 2 moderns on a warm sunny day. The back roads will be there for another day, just find another café and it will be a completely new experience.

Bob Mackay

MYSTERY CARS FROM LAST MONTH'S ISSUE OF SIDE CURTAINS



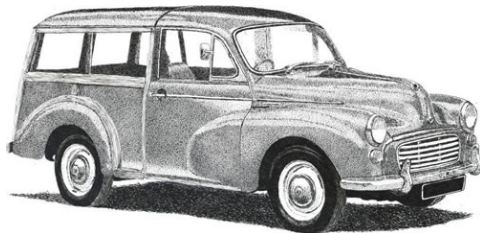
*1965 Panhard 24CT
made in France*



*1970 Morris Nomad
made in Australia*

From The Club Captain

Angie Brunton



Reminder - please bring all trophies back to the clubrooms in time for the Prizegiving in June.

Club Captains Run, Sunday 14 May 2016

This will be a Poker Run leaving the clubrooms at 1pm for a short scenic run with a Mothers Day afternoon tea at the clubrooms at the conclusion of the run.

Pink Breakfast

Saturday, 20th of May
9.30am at the clubrooms

\$20 per person - all welcome
Wear something Pink
There will be a quiz and a raffle
Please contact Angie to advise
number attending for catering
purposes.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir, (*Sir ?!, Ed.*)

On the Secretary's Page in the March issue there is mentioned the 2017 FIVA World Rally to be held in July and based in Szczyrk, Poland. It sounds interesting, but how do you pronounce the name of that town?

Ronald Mayes

(*Editor: carefully...*)

CALLING ALL BRANCH MEMBERS!

Please make sure you get your name on the volunteer board at the clubrooms for this year's Swap Meet, 9th July



ROTORUA VINTAGE &
VETERAN CAR CLUB INC

37th Central North Island

SWAP MEET

AND

CAR SHOW

SPECTACULAR

Stock Car Raceway Paradise Valley

SUNDAY 9th JULY 2017

Featuring Vintage, Veteran, Classic Cars and Hotrods

THIS EVENT WILL BE OF INTEREST TO ALL COLLECTORS OF VINTAGE,
VETERAN, CLASSIC AND COLLECTABLE CARS, MOTORCYCLES HOT RODS,
MEMORABILIA, OLD CAR BOOKS, OLD TOYS, MODEL CARS & TRAINS,
AND ANYTHING OF A COLLECTABLE OR ANTIQUE NATURE

Hot food and refreshments available

Open from 7am till 3pm

**FOR SITE ENQUIRIES - Phone Neville Harper on
07 348 2412, Mobile - 027 494 7249
or Email daharpers@gmail.com**

SHOW CAR ENQUIRIES - Phone Bob MacKay 07 332 3849

**ADMISSION: SELLER'S VEHICLE & DRIVER \$10 PER SITE
ALL OTHERS \$5 PER PERSON (ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN FREE)**

www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

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NEW IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

by Ronald Mayes

Worth a look if British cars are your passion!

MORRIS MINOR TRAVELLER The Complete Companion, by Ray Newell and Steve Foreman, Herridge and Sons, 2012

All you ever wanted to know about these little charmers, including details of some recent rebuilds incorporating features the originals never had! The chapter on the building of Travellers tells us that the ash planks used came from as far afield as Eastern Europe. Frame making was time consuming and labour intensive. Working conditions in the woodworking department were far from ideal, many of the workers suffering in later life from respiratory illnesses caused by inhaling dust.

The chapter on maintenance reinforces the need for frequent monitoring and work to prevent problems with that vital woodwork and offers many useful tips. And there is lots of useful information for the owners of all Minor models.

ROVER SD1 The Full Story 1976 - 1986, by James Taylor, The Crowood Press 2012.

Dashing new styling for a big saloon/hatchback, work on it started about 1970 as a replacement for the Rover 2000/3500 and Triumph 2000/2500. But it came at the wrong time in the history of what became British Leyland with so many internal upheavals, production troubles and poor component quality controls. You get the whole story here! It could have been a great car - this writer fell for a 1985 top of the line 3500 Vanden Plas example in 1995. It cost \$64000 new and by then only \$12500, but that was just the deposit. Over the next 7 years and 45000 km before he sold it, a huge number of faults and failures were repaired and he has yet to summon up enough courage to add up all those costs. When it actually worked it was an enjoyable car to drive. Some 300000 SD1s were built, the number of survivors is very low, but those who have persevered with them are reaping the rewards of the skills of the original, far-sighted designers.

PRESERVATION PROGRESS

by Ronald Mayes

Our members have been busy. The last time we saw Rocky Fiske's 1960s MG Midget it was sitting in his workshop in a dismantled state but on 26 April he and Rebecca took it on the midweekers' run and very smart it looks! Peter Stanaway rescued an Austin Maxi from a wrecker's yard a year or so ago and now he has brought it back to life - many of the parts needed came from the spares sheds of other VCC branches. I thought Bob Mackay's Morris Minor pickup looked quite good when he bought it but he wasted no time in dismantling it down to its component parts and it, too, is now back on the road after considerable body work.

We await the completion of the rebuilding of John Kirkland's Ford Model T truck and I keep looking at all the jobs that need doing on our cars. I finally organised the repainting of my Princess 1100 - the semi-retired Papamoa panel and paint expert who repainted our Triumph 2000 is keen to do the job in the spring. After seeing him I called on a Mini specialist in Te Puke to see what he thought of the state of the engine (there is a little big-end rattle at cold start-up, and gearbox bearings are somewhat noisy, but compressions and oil pressure are fine). He tried the car out and pronounced it healthy enough. I will look at replacing various final drive seals as it leaks more oil than it burns (our WoF mechanic says oil leaks are anti-rusting design features of British cars.)

MYSTERY VEHICLES

The upper car is from the 1970s, and is not what you think it is. The lower car looks like a well known USA car from the 1960s, but the distinctive grille is from an Italian marque. But it is neither, but it was made in the 1960s.



AGM / CLUB NIGHT - May 10th

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 7.30pm

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits

Upcoming Midweek Runs *by Bob Mackay*

Midweek Run 24th May 2017 – Fire Training Centre

Please note we are required to provide numbers attending the May run to the Fire Training Centre a week before (May17th). Please ensure I have your name if you wish to attend. Bob Mackay (07 332 3849 evenings).

Meet at the club rooms 10am for morning tea. Following morning tea we will take a drive though rural Rotorua to a café for lunch before our visit to the Fire Training Centre at 1pm. We thank Cliff Wickham for arranging this visit.

BUY, SELL, SWAP...

FOR SALE

1971 Triumph Herald 1360. Urgent sale.

Car was fully rebuilt in 1990 and has done very few miles since then. Apart from minor paint blemish is in very good condition. Asking \$8000 but will consider offers.

Contact Snow on
07 548 1140 or
021 280 3311



COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
May 2017	10	Club Night / AGM	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	14	Poker Run	1pm	Clubrooms	6
	20	Pink Breakfast	9am	Clubrooms	6
	24	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	11
June	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	18	Run & Prize Giving	1pm	Clubrooms	3
	28	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
July	5	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	9	Swap Meet & Show	7.00am	Paradise Valley	7
	26	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
August	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	23	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
	26	Sulphur City Rally	TBA	TBA	
September	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	Night Run	TBA	TBA	
	27	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

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

Rotorua Motoring History

