

# SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the  
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND  
VETERAN CAR CLUB  
NOVEMBER 2015



**WE'RE NOW ON FACEBOOK !**

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

# BBQ Run - 18 October 2015



# SIDE CURTAINS - November 2015

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

**Sun Alliance Agency Number:** HO 0300146

**Club Meetings:** 2nd Wednesday of month (except January), 7.15 for 7.30pm start

## OFFICERS

**Patron** - Bob Mowbray

**Chairperson** - David Tomlinson

**Secretary** - Lois Thompson

**Treasurer** - Terry Fitzpatrick

**Club Captain** - Vacant

**Asst. Club Captain** - Vacant

### Committee

Terry Wadsworth

Steve De Jeu

Darryl Stretch

Roger Nelson

John Peters

**Mid Weekers** - Bob Mackay

**Side Curtains Editor** - David Tomlinson

rvvcc.editor@gmail.com

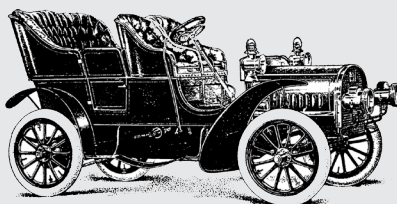
**Beaded Wheels** - Ronald Mayes

**Librarian** - Dorothy Clouston

**Asst Librarian** - John Kirkland

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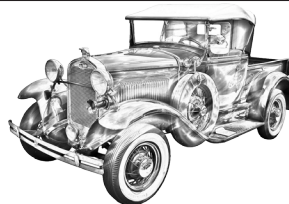
### Cover Photos

Front - BBQ Run, October 2015

Back - BBQ Run, October 2015

## 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

## - October 2015

*by David Tomlinson*



The end of the year is fast approaching, and there are only two club nights remaining, and only one more issue of Side Curtains after this issue.

I would like to start by thanking those continuing to keep the wheels turning, including Kevin and Maryann Scott, and Terry and Sandra Fitzpatrick for putting on an excellent BBQ run in great weather too.

October's club night was almost completely devoted to a presentation by Rally Tours NZ, an Auckland based company that is organising a 65 day self drive tour from Vladivastock to London next year. There is a follow up to their talk in this issue. The event looks awesome, and while it does require a significant investment in time and money, it would be a fantastic adventure through some places you would otherwise probably never be able to see.

We have a couple of club events still coming up, including the Swap Meet "Thank You" Dinner at the clubrooms on November 14, starting at 6.30pm. All those whose names are on the volunteer board for this year's Swap Meet will dine for free (BYO drinks), and all others are welcome for a modest price of \$20. As well as good food, there will be good company and a chance to catch up with other members.

We have no club night or Side Curtains in January, but the club will be hosting its 4th Annual Lakefront Car Show at the Lake Domain on Sunday 17th. If you would like to know more and can't make it to either the November or December club nights ring or email me. Those displaying vehicles will be asked for a gold coin donation, and donation buckets will circulate amongst visitors to the event, with all proceeds going to St John Ambulance. The event showcases the things we share a passion for, and gives us a chance to mingle with other car club members, and the public. It is our strongest event during the year to try and meet locals who own classic vehicles and introduce them to our club at our activities.

And as well as the Swap Meet and Sulphur City Rally in 2016, the VCC will hold its AGM in Rotorua, with support from our branch, in particular we will ask for members to transport delegates to and from the airport, and it would be great if we could use club cars to do this.

I hope to see many of you at our November events and trust all went well for the group who will have just completed the mid-weekers Spring Tour around the Taranaki region.

# CLUB SOCIAL DINNER NIGHT

November 14th - Clubrooms, 6.30pm

BYO drinks

Swap Meet Volunteers dine free!

All others \$20 per person for a night of  
great food and great company!



Please advise David or Lois if you will attend so  
that catering can be organised to suit the numbers.

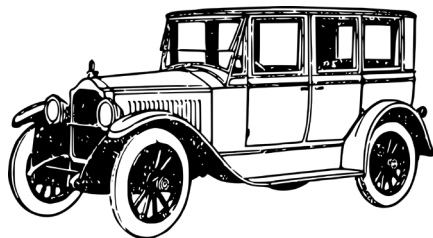
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## NOVEMBER CLUB RUN

“Road End Run”

15 November 2015

*Organised by Bill & Adelai Skelton*



Assemble at the clubrooms from 12 noon, first car away 12.45pm

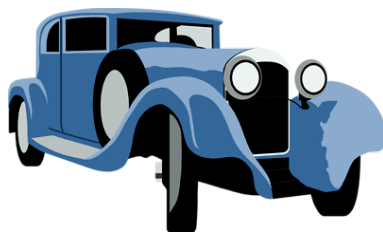
Bring your own picnic afternoon tea & hot water flask. There are toilets  
available at the picnic venue.

If wet, an alternative venue for afternoon will be used.

# BBQ Run

18 October 2015

*by Lady Dy*



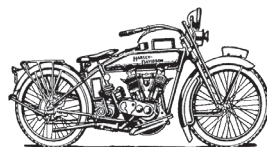
We arrived at the clubrooms for a nice cuppa and were given our instructions, these were slightly cryptic but reasonably easy to work out so off we went. We had been around this track before but the different take from fresh heads did a wonderful job of organising this one. There was lots of questions and they made us think and look at what was around us. Unfortunately there had been a serious accident on part of the course but the switched-on organisers had this sorted in no time.

Back to the clubrooms and a natter before being served a delicious BBQ dinner. There were 16 entries in all, with everyone trying not to win and have to set the run next year. A big thank you to Kevin, Mary Ann, Terry & Sandra for an awesome afternoon.

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## Classic Bike Ride

*by Rocky Fiske*



An invitation to the RVVCC to join the Rotorua Classic Motorcycle club for its 40th anniversary ride on the 17th of October saw only one club car arrive at Neil Hunt Park for the official start.

There were 53 Motorcycles from various parts of the country registered for the event. I was unaware of the event until late notice, but seen as they were coming through the Waikite Ngakuru area I thought I would fire up the bike, don the leathers and join them.

I estimated roughly where they would be by 1.30pm and met up with them at the North end of Whirinaki Valley road. From there we meandered through most of the roads in the picturesque Waikite Ngakuru valley areas at a fairly brisk pace I might add on what was a beautiful October afternoon ending at the Waiotapu Hotel for afternoon tea.

All in all a fabulous ride with out of towners full of praise of our beautiful countryside. Thanks to Rotorua Classic Motorcycle for organising such a great event.

# **A Crime Of Our Times** (How safe are our cars?)

*From Bob Mackay*

I refer you to a very interesting article that I read recently on the internet (where else?). Hopefully in New Zealand we can escape the problems faced by many of our counter-parts in the UK and presumably main land Europe, never-the-less maybe we should take the article as being fore warned.

Written by Alan Colman, who is described as both a serial classic car collector and a serving police officer with the West Midlands Police Motorway Patrol. In the extensive article it appears that the value of historical cars (pre 1980) is rising and as such are becoming targets for criminals who break them up for hard to get parts or in many cases stolen to order.

With nothing being sacred vehicles ranging from 1933 to the 80's are in the criminal's sights. In the 10 months to the end of April 2014, 243 classics were stolen in the UK, nothing appears sacred, even a milk float got stolen. Full details of the article at [www.mmoc.org.uk/pdf/theft.pdf](http://www.mmoc.org.uk/pdf/theft.pdf)

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## **OUR WEBSITE**

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

Monthly updates for events and our magazine.

We need more photos from members to upload to change its look regularly. Email photos to the Side Curtains editor.

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## **Contributions to Side Curtains**

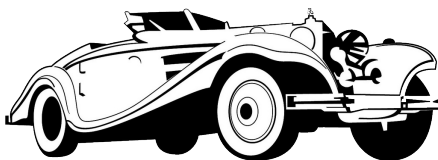
This is your magazine. It's content will only be as good as the information members submit to the editor to include. Please feel free to share anything you think might be of interest to the membership by sending it to the editor, preferably by email, and a picture says a thousand words, so include photos where possible.

Members taking part in club runs or events hosted by other clubs are encouraged to pen a short piece about their experience to include in the next issue going to print. Please have items to the editor by the end of the month.

# Gossip Gleanings

## Club Member's Activities

*by Ronald Mayes*



From various sources I find there has been quite a lot happening:

David Taylor's Ford TT truck has been sold and has gone to Whangarei. Another serious American car enthusiast has sold his 1937 V8 and is contemplating going English (I am trying to interest him in Triumphs!) and yet another, as I write, is acquiring a late model Austin Maxi. Bob MacKay has a photo of his recently-acquired Morris Minor utility on the wall of his workshop – it looks quite good but he has wasted no time in dismantling the vehicle down almost to the last nut and bolt. Currently being reassembled, it will probably end up being better than new.

I should have gone on the mid-weekers' run to Matamata, but after seeing everyone off from Bob's place I had to go into town for a medical appointment. On the way I parked in an end spot in front of the town hall while I ducked in to the public library. I thought the car would be safe from door bangers but came back to find a deep, wavy scratch on the left rear wing. Either someone thought the car was too shiny or had knocked against it with an umbrella or bag. My insurance would pay for the repair (less the \$100 excess) and I had a litre of Dulon Valencia Blue acrylic lacquer left over from the repaint a few years ago.

Visiting several painters I soon learned most were not interested in repainting with anything other than modern two-pot finishes and clear coats and that was not an option – it would soon be very obvious. Gordon Linton in Mt Maunganui who had painted the car could have done the job, but I found a local painter who “was brought up using Dulon”: John Rowbotham of JR Autospray. He advertises car restoration and had a customer's gleaming VW Beetle outside his workshop. He duly did the job and, after I returned the car for a little more polishing and removal of a couple of sanding marks, the repaired area is impossible to spot.

Someone lamented the lack of driveshaft balancing facilities here: doing the rounds of the car painters I spotted Advance Steel Engineering (Brett Hamilton) in White St who can indeed balance driveshafts. Handy to learn that, a Triumph one will be taken there some time soon.

Meanwhile, tyres for 1960s Holdens and Zephyrs and 1970s Triumph 2000s and 2500s are becoming hard to find. 175/80R13 (2000s) and 185/80R13 (2500s) seem to have vanished from the traders' stocks.

## Taupo VCC Branch “Show ‘n Shine”

Taupo branch are holding a shine & show on November 21st in Taupo Town at the St Johns Ambulance area, just up Spa Rd from 10am - 12.00 noon.

Rotorua members are welcome to drive down and join them on the day.

If anyone is interested please phone or email David Tomlinson for contact details or other information.

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## Art Show

Kyle Burling is a student studying art in his final year at Waiariki. This year he has chosen to paint cars (on canvas, not on the cars!).

He has a great love of old cars and I has made enough paintings to hold an exhibition in November. His paintings are from close up photos that he took at our last Swap Meet at Paradise Valley. He is currently studying reflections and painting the reflections from the car’s surface.

He invites anyone who is interested to come along to view the paintings. The exhibition opening is November 12th 2015 5pm - 8pm at 1192 Pu-kuatua Street Rotorua. He looks forward to seeing some of us there to see his work and talk cars.

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## **WE ARE ON FACEBOOK!**

The branch has a Facebook page which has a growing number of new likes every week, with items and pictures being shared around the internet regularly.



Just search for “Rotorua Vintage Car” in Facebook to find the page. Press “like” and you will automatically get notifications of posts on the page.

Efforts will be made to post photos from events and runs, club notices and other items to help members and prospective new members alike.

# Rally Tours NZ

Club Night Visit  
October 2015



*At the October club night we were visited by Greg Paul and Deb Hollier of Rally Tours NZ and viewed a presentation of their 2016 Vladivastok to London 65 day self drive tour. We invited them to send us the following for this issue of Side Curtains:*

It was great to see so many people at the meeting on Wednesday 14th October, both Greg and I enjoyed meeting with you and hearing about all your stories about your vehicles and your travels. For the members who did not get an opportunity to meet with us, here is an overview of what Rally Tours do.

Greg Paul is the Owner Operator of Rally Tours NZ Ltd based out of Auckland. Greg is a very keen enthusiast of all things rally and has led many of the WRC tours here in NZ, worked along-side WRC Rally Australia and WRC Rally Argentina and has also participated in the very successful 'Targa Rally' as one of the Tour leaders.

Since 2007 Greg has been the tour leader for 4x4, classic and modern vehicles across the vast continents of China/Russia/Mongolia/Eastern Europe. Each year Greg embarks on an adventure with clients who are like minded, looking for that something different in the way of travel, going to places that are not on your normal travel destination.

Greg has recently completed back to back tours starting in London (Silk Road Tour) and finishing in Vladivastok with clients, This 'ultimate road journey through time' covered countries in Eastern Europe such as Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan through to Russia, some of the very remote roads of Mongolia and completed the 76 day journey in Vladivastok.

Greg embarked on the final tour, from Vladivastok which took the clients through to Mongolia, through to the eastern and western areas of Europe, completing the 65 day journey in London.

In May 2016, Greg is offering a unique opportunity to join the ultimate adventure in your classic or modern vehicle.

The tour is a 65 day sight-seeing epic driving adventure with a difference taking in China, Mongolia, Siberia and Western Russia, into Eastern and Western Europe to finish in London.

This is a trip of lifetime that will take you through areas that have only recently opened up to foreign visitors. The diverse cultures, the ancient history, tasting the most extraordinary local cuisine, and interesting heritage sites make this an amazing trip through time. You will be travelling with like-minded intrepid travellers who are eager to experience this unknown part of the world. Travelling in your own vehicle on some of the toughest and remotest roads in the world also add to the sense of achievement. This is an adventure you will never forget!

Rally Tours NZ Ltd specialize in the creation of unique self-drive tour for discerning travelers who have done the traditional resorts and leisure activities, and now looking for an adventure.

The team at Rally Tours takes cares of all the logistics for you and your cost covers all your accommodation, flights, shipping of your vehicle, vehicle marine insurance and your visas (Russia, China & Mongolia). We will also advise and assist with your car and personal preparation, and provide you with all the necessary documentation.

You make the decision to participate and we will do the rest – it is that easy!!

If you would like to know more here are some useful details

Website: [www.rallytours.co.nz](http://www.rallytours.co.nz)

Talk to either Greg or Deb

Deb 027 258 6614 [deb@rallytours.co.nz](mailto:deb@rallytours.co.nz)

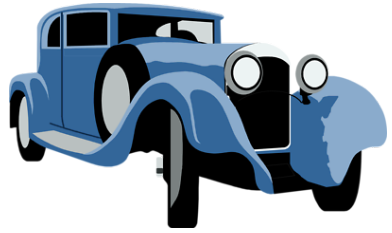
Greg 021 777 523 [greg@rallytours.co.nz](mailto:greg@rallytours.co.nz)

Do email us if you would like to receive our regular newsletters.

We wish you well in your adventures, Rally Tours NZ.

# Journey Through Time Rally

*by Doug Green*



On Friday 16 October we left home and headed to Taumarunui for the annual King Country VCC Journey Through Time Rally, arriving in time to have a look around the shops.

On Saturday morning we met at the clubrooms for a cuppa and the briefing. On leaving we headed north towards Te Kuiti, turning left on to Opotiki Road (also known as the Bullock Track) and heading to Otunui and an abandoned school.

Otunui was originally settled in 1914 and serviced by river boats until roads were formed in the 1920s. This road took us 25 kilometres from Taumarunui and is still metal. We then went on to Ohura and Matiere with questions all the way and in the villages.

The best part of the run was mostly through heavy native bush where we came upon and draughted apart cattle, sheep, goats, turkeys and pheasants – a normal drive for the locals who live and farm in these remote areas. Two families have lived there on the same farms for over one hundred years.

The event was called the Hills, Hills and More Hills Rally and, boy, did they mean it: second gear was well used! We had lunch at Matiere School which was holding its pet day and gala, what a great little school!

Lunch was had in the original schoolhouse which was about 800 square feet in size and had just been restored. Back to Taumarunui for dinner and the prize-giving.

Rotorua members taking part were Ralph and Joan Bennett (1938 Buick), John and Kath Kirkland (modern), Graham and Anne Manson (1939 Plymouth) and of Doug and Doreen Green (1929 Graham Paige).

Doug and Doreen in the Graham Paige got second prize and another prize for having done all 21 Journey Through Time rallies and Graham won a \$100 meat raffle.

The King Country VCC put on another great rally, great people, great food, a great weekend. Thank you, King Country, for your hospitality from us all in Rotorua.

# NEXT CLUB NIGHT - November 11th

Visual presentation of the Beaulieu  
& Haynes Motor Museums - UK

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## Upcoming Midweek Runs *by Bob Mackay*

### *November 25th Midweek run*

The November run is being kindly being organised by Les and Gail Kostar in the Whakatane area. We will meet at our Rotorua Club Rooms at 9.45am for morning tea to be ready to leave at 10.15am. Lunch will be at “Whitehouse Cafe” at 11.30am which should leave ample time travel to Ohope by 1.30pm for a visit to Paul Handrick’s museum. I am unaware of what is in this collection but am assured that is both a privilege and well worth visiting.

At this stage we do not know if there is a charge or maybe a gold coin donation required, just be prepared. This will be the last midweek run for 2015. It is anticipated that the first midweek run for 2016 will be in January and take form of a short run to a family picnic spot. You think you are lucky as your kids have left home, so bring the grand kids or even the kids from next door, they will all enjoy a ride in a historical car, (start on them early it can be part of our recruitment campaign for future members!).

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## A Quote from Henry Ford

Anyone who stops learning is old whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.

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## Club Polo Shirts For Sale - size L

A limited number of club polo shirts have been located and are available for sale on club night for \$10 each.

Only available in a light blue coloured polo, and only in size “L”.



# COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
November	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	14	Social Evening	6.30pm	Clubrooms	3
	15	Club Run	12.30pm	Clubrooms	3
	25	Midweekers	9.45am	Whakatane area	11
December	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
January	17	Lake Car Show	10am	Lake Domain	

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## BUY, SELL, SWAP...

Some of the vehicles listed in the last two issues have been sold, and as no advice has been received to re-list them again, this month's issue has nothing for sale. We did receive a member's ad for a lovely Mk 7 Jag, but it sold on TradeMe within 24 hours of being listed.

If anyone is interested in an old trailer for sale that was used to transport an old roller (presume the road machine, not a Silver Ghost!), with old style wheels, along with old unused bearings, roller pins etc, contact David Tomlinson and I will put you in touch with the local vendor. Most of the parts are older British and American.

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### *Mystery Car - October issue*

Well with only one person making contact with the editor regarding the Mystery Car last issue, either it was far too hard, or maybe not something Side Curtains is ready for at present. In any case, the only guess was "Volkswagen", which while not correct, the vehicle does have some VW "guts" and of course the rear lights were very "Beetle".

The car was a limited production "Madison" kit car made in the UK, and were based on either a VW Beetle or a Ford Cortina donor car, retaining most of the donor car's running gear. The vehicle pictured is owned by a regular visitor to NZ who stays with one of our branch members.

# Rotorua Classic Motorcycle Club Run



# BBQ Run - 18 October 2015

