

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

OCTOBER 2023



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www.rvvcc.org.nz

Chairman's Run, September 2023



SIDE CURTAINS - October 2023

The magazine of the ROTORUA
VINTAGE AND VETERAN CAR CLUB

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

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Librarian - Ronald Mayes

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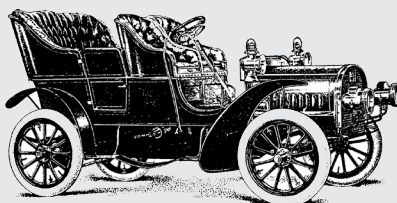
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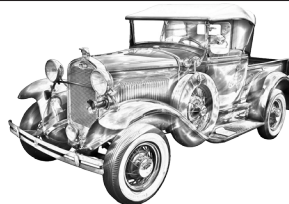
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CLUB CAR PHOTOS

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

- September 2023

by David Tomlinson



Fleur, Alex and I spent the first 10 days of September in the 35 degrees C daily heat of Singapore, returning just in time for club night and the Chairman's Run.

Club night featured Brian Olds' 1926 Buick Roadster and Brian gave us a talk on his father's almost accidental career as a mechanic, trained via a Canadian correspondence school!

We enjoyed the fellowship of a number of North Shore branch members at my workshop after the Chairman's Run, using the deck of my 1959 Bedford truck as the afternoon tea table.

It was good to see a midweekers run was held, and there is hope this could continue on some scale in the future.

On the first weekend of October, Fleur and I took part in a two day event celebrating 90 years since the first Bentleys made by Rolls-Royce left the Derby works. On the first day we took our 1968 Silver Shadow due to the very poor weather, and visited Chris Empson's wonderful collection in Te Awamutu (some branch members visited here on a Spring Tour in the not too distant past). We then had a guided tour of the Matangi Dairy Factory site by developer Harry Mowbray, patriarch of the Zuru toys family. We skipped the evening dinner, and the next day dawned bright and sunny. Our 1933 Rolls-Royce was made at Derby, 90 years ago, so we thought it appropriate to change cars for the day. We barely made it past the Mamaku

turn off before a puncture slowed us down. After some help, we managed to make it to Paeroa a few minutes late but just in time to go on a cruise on the Waihou River, which curiously we had crossed earlier in the day on a tiny bridge just before Tirau. After a great day out, we ran out of fuel just before we made it home (!) but luckily the tank has a reserve switch, and we arrived safely back at my workshop.

Cruise Te Aroha *by Neville Harper*

Ken Thomas and myself decided to head over to Cruise TeAroha on Saturday, 7th October. The weather forecast was half reasonable (much better than last year which we also attended and got wet). We arrived in town at around 8.45am and the main street was closed to everyday traffic and a detour was in place.

We parked up in the main street to display our cars and went looking for coffee, but there were a lot of distractions as there were a lot of very nice cars there. We guessed there would have been around 300 vehicles and a huge crowd there but it was easy to get around them all with no through traffic.

There was a huge selection of vehicles ranging from a veteran Hupmobile, vintage cars, hotrods, ratrods, custom cars, muscle cars, classic cars and even a few jappas. It's great to see such a huge variety of makes and models and mostly all in such great condition. A lot of these cars have had a serious amount of money spent on them.

Prize giving took place at 2.30pm and Ken was the lucky recipient of the entrants draw and took home a new wet and dry vacuum cleaner. As we headed back to our cars the rain started and never stopped on the way home, so timing was perfect.

Why Should I Never Buy An Electric Car?

submitted by Geoff Nitz

Why should you never buy an electric car?

First of all I'm not a EV fanboy or anything like that. I'm a person that does research. Then I make informed decisions based upon the information I have gathered from the research. Unlike most people, I look at both sides of a story. I'm also willing to change my mind when presented with logical and factual information that I may not have thought about or misunderstood. I also understand that my reality is not everyone's reality.

Here is my experience after owning 2 different Tesla's and why EV's are not a fad. I will also note that EV's (just like ICE vehicles) are not 100% perfect for 100% of the population of the united states. Just like everything, there are perfect fits, kinda fits and doesn't work at all scenarios. As usual it depends on where you live, how much money you make, your personality and a thousand other factors.

1. Range Anxiety. Only exists in people that have not owned an EV, are irrational or can't do basic 3rd grade math. This is usually because people read posts like this and or don't talk to someone that actually owns an EV. The car tells you everything you need to know before you leave the garage so why do people have anxiety? It gives you multiple options BEFORE you reach the point of no return. Why do people still have anxiety? If you run out of juice it's entirely your own fault. Listen to the car, use common sense and you should run out of juice the same amount of times you run out of gas. For me, I've never run out of gas in my driving lifetime and I have never run out of juice in my Tesla. Not even close. Even in the middle of nowhere because I took 10 minutes and planned ahead with the available options.

2. You do have to stop more on road trips. It's not long stops like most people think. I avg about 10 to 20 minutes per stop. I have found the extra stops actually make road trips more enjoyable. I'm not the only one. I have talked to thousands of Tesla owners and many of them agree. You arrive at the destination not sore, tired or irritated because you get out and stretch. I used to be the get there as fast as humanly possible type but no more. Never going back to that way.

3. Premature tyre wear. This can be true if you drive it like you stole it. Which is easy to do because Teslas are a blast to drive. I experienced this

with my first Tesla! What is not true is the range if you switch tyres. I switched out my tyres (Michelin Cross Climate 2) and did not notice any decrease in real world range. The new tyres lasted the same amount of time as normal tyres.

4. My insurance is around the same. Within 5% of my ICE vehicle. This depends on so many things that you can't really say it's the EV. Unless you are an actuary you are just guessing on why EV's cost more, if they do in fact cost more where you live. They do not where I live.

5. Road Trips. Tesla chargers DO cost more than charging at home. A lot more! I pay .13/KwH at home. Not sure where you are getting your information from but even .50/KwH is nowhere near the cost of gas. You will only need an extra day if you are driving really, really far. This goes back to my may not be a fit for everyone. If you do road trips of 700 or 800 miles each and every weekend then an EV might not be a good fit for you. The reality is, the avg American drives 30 miles a day. How many days of the year do you drive 30 miles a day vs how many days you drive 800? For me it's like 360 days vs 5. I get all the benefits of an EV 360 days of the year vs 5 days where I experience a few things you talk about. Easily worth it for me. I can't speak for anyone else.

6. Taxes are taxes. They will get paid. One of the main reasons our country is the leading economy in the world is our road system. I'm not political at all but even the dumbest politician would be a fool to not create new, different taxes to pay to keep the roads in reasonable shape. It doesn't matter how the vehicles on said roads are being powered, the roads need to be serviced and paid for by taxes of some type. This is not rocket science. Nothing to do with EV's.

Lastly, Here are some of the things I've heard people ask and get the wrong answer to.

1. Why are we being forced to switch to EV's.

a. Have people forgotten which country they live in? You are not being forced to do shit. You are being forced to make choices but you are forced to do that every all day every day. It's called being an adult. ICE vehicles will around for a long time. Especially if you are mechanically inclined.

2. How will the grid handle EV's?

a. As far as the grid goes, someone will figure it out. Again, have you forgot which country you live in? What runs this country? MONEY! If there is enough money to be made, and there is, someone will figure

something out. If not then yes, EV's will fail along with our entire country if we don't keep up with our growing power needs. It's that simple.

3. What happens if you need new batteries?

a. I've talked to thousands of EV owners and have never once heard of someone having to get new batteries. Not saying it has never happened but it has to be very, very low. I believe the batteries are rated for 500,000 to 800,000 miles<<Update 8/12/23

b. Google How long Tesla Batteries last.

c. How many people have a car with that many miles on it? I know there are some but on average! There are plenty of Tesla's out there with over a million miles on them with the same batteries that came with the car. We keep getting more and more data each year that proves what I'm saying. When purchasing an ICE vehicle how many times did you walk into the dealership and tell them you were worried about replacing the entire engine and how much does it cost? For me never, this is the same thing IMO.

4. Aren't EV's bad for the environment?

a. I've been to some Oil and Gas sites and there is nothing you're going to tell me that a lithium/cobalt or whatever mineral mine is any worse for the environment. Both are horrific for the environment. I didn't get an EV to save the environment, cure cancer or any other bullshit. It's just a car. I'll leave that to others to debate.

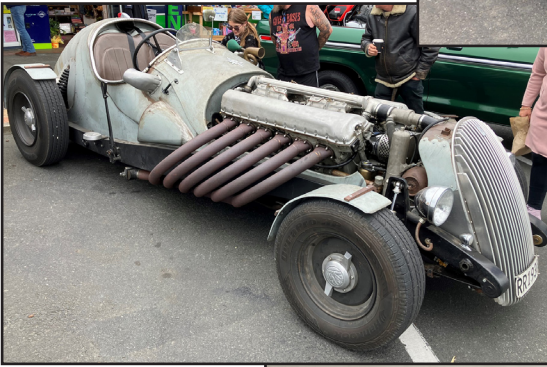
IMO, many EV haters sound just like the people when cars first came out vs horses or tractors vs Oxen. How did that work out for the horse and oxen people? We figured it out didn't we. It's called progress. Sorry for the long post.

From an article by Bryan Jones, a Tesla owner in the USA.

In October your editor discovered that he needs two jacks to replace a rear wheel on his 1933 car. One to jack the axle up high enough to remove the wheel and the other to lift the body up high enough to fit the new wheel under the wheel arch!



Cruise Te Aroha 2023



Chairman's Run *by Fleur Tomlinson*

So where do I begin? We had just finished the Sulphur City Rally and Dave announces he is doing the Chairman's Run in September with the North Shore VCC branch coming along to see his car collection. As the loving and supportive wife I am, what am I to do but go with it?

We arrive back in New Zealand very late at night on the 10th of September from 10 full on days in Singapore, not thinking about car clubs or car runs. The 11th was a day of unpacking and doing mountains of washing before heading back to work for me on the 12th and planning things for the run on the Sunday.

Saturday afternoon we palmed Alex off to a friend's house for a play-date and took the chance to check the route again, or so we thought. We head off from the car club towards the airport and soon we were at a standstill. Road works not a good idea so a quick u-turn and re-route of the run, we were soon back on track plotting out questions for a new run. Dave with his pen quickly noting down things as I very slowly held up traffic, not one horn honked at me which was surprising must have been the big orange truck that scared them off LOL. Run complete, questions all done we soon headed back home to type it all up and get ready for the next day's activities.

Well the weather gods must have been listening to us as the weather could not of been better for a car run. Sunday morning was busy for me in the kitchen, making Dave's favourite asparagus rolls and a few other things for the afternoon tea, whilst Dave was up at Hall Road with our faithful neighbour re-arranging cars, making things look good for our out of town visitors and club members. Dave headed off to the car club with his run in hand and set everyone off and rushed back to Hall Road. I only just bet him up there, and quickly unloaded the car and finished setting up the kitchen as people started arriving.

Well, I can't comment on the run as I didn't do it on Sunday, but the general comment was it was lovely run through town, and not too long. A couple of cars had a few little hiccups, but everyone made it

back to Hall Road for afternoon tea.

During afternoon tea we also had a wee celebration, a surprise one. I just couldn't let it go by without a cake and some candles. Pat Burr let it slip whilst calling in to see me at work that it was her 80th birthday, well that of course had to be celebrated. So we brought out a chocolate cake lit up with candles and everyone sang Happy Birthday to her and Pat looking rather surprised and it even brought a wee tear to her eye.

Everyone looked as if they enjoyed their afternoon tea. I can't thank Doreen Green and Pat Mackay enough, and anyone else for their help in the kitchen, it was very much appreciated. Thank you Doreen for the lovely muffins, they went down a treat. Not much baking or food was left over, so that is a good sign of a good afternoon tea.

MEMBERS' CARS IN THE FUTURE? *by Ronald Mayes*

At present most of our cars, from vintage to post-1960 models, are easily identified from their "faces" when lined up together.

Picture the possible club scene in 30 or even 20 years. When I see a row of modern cars parked in a row in a mall car park, I have to read the badge on each one (with the exception of the Volkswagen New Beetle in the photograph) to learn its name and model.



September Midweekers *by Bob Mackay*

With the absence of willing volunteers to organise mid week runs we decided to lead by example and arrange a run (now, who will organise the next one?!). With the suggestion that winter is over and spring is in the air we met at Te Pūia car park for a very straight forward run on state SH5, then taking the Taupo bypass to the Two Mile Bay Sailing Club for lunch at lakefront. On arrival a very warm and sunny day greeted us, we had 4 club cars, 7 modern, 25 members and friends along with our furry mascot “Sammie”. The Sailing Club is a very pleasant indoor and extensive outdoor licensed venue overlooking the lake with a simple menu of pizza and toasties along with drinks. After a long lunch, much fellowship (polite word lots of talking) every one made their way home with a number taking the opportunity to visit family.



Footnote: for anyone willing to organise a midweek run; it could be on any other day, Wednesday is not set in stone, just tradition of the last 15-20 years.

The engine bay of our September Car In The Room, a 1926 Buick.



CLUB NIGHT - October 11th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1990 Nissan Skyline R32 coupe

Followed by tea and coffee.

Club Run Sunday, 15th October

Be at the club rooms by 10am. We will be going for a cruise around the top of Lake Rotoehu and then stopping at the Okere Falls Store for lunch, space and weather permitting. There is a 5km section of unsealed road on the course. If the weather is very poor, an alternative option to a rural pub or café for lunch will be considered.

Midweekers

No midweekers event has yet been planned for October.

Our Library is open on club nights. With the disposal of most of the duplicate books at the Swap Meet there is room to move about in the room! Have a look, you will find many fascinating books from highly technical how to do it manuals to light bedtime reading.

And look for a new Car Toon on the notice board. If you see your car there and the author's description of the type of person who would own it you might immediately sell it and buy something less revealing of your character...

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
October 2023	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	15	Club Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
Nov 2023	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	12	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
Dec 2023	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	17	High Tea Run	TBA	TBA	
Jan 2024	21	Lakefront Car Show	10am	Village Green	

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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.

Cruise Te Aroha 2023



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