

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

OCTOBER 2021



ROTORUA



WE ARE ON FACEBOOK !

www.rvvcc.org.nz

CARS SEEN AT THE VCC AGM



SIDE CURTAINS - October 2021

The magazine of the ROTORUA
VINTAGE AND VETERAN CAR CLUB

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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
021 731 678

Treasurer - Terry Fitzpatrick

Club Captain
Terry Wadsworth

Asst. Club Captain
Fleur Tomlinson

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Neville Harper
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Cards/Flowers - Doreen Green

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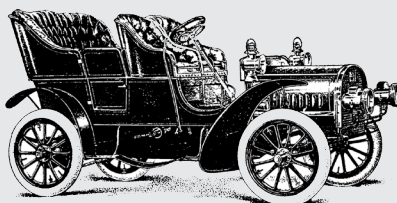
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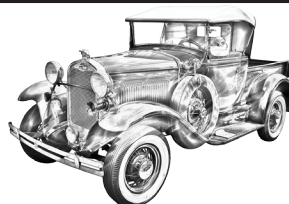
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CLUB CAR PHOTOS

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

- August/September 2021

by David Tomlinson



What a challenging couple of months. Having got used to a certain level of freedoms again, and being one of the lucky VCC branches to have a Swap Meet this year, we were plunged back into lockdown at the shortest of notice. I feel for Jenny Cole and all the hard work she put in to arranging the Spring Tour, only to have to pull the plug three weeks out. Since that decision was made, the whole of Northland were locked down, so things actually worsened. Large parts of the Waikato are now locked down, and of course Auckland and parts of King Country. It looks like it is creeping closer, with a confirmed case in the Bay of Plenty.

We did manage a club night in August, and a few days later I flew down to Christchurch to the VCC AGM which celebrated the VCC's 75th birthday. There was no vote on the new VCC logo, the management committee asked for the planned vote to be deferred. It had created a lot of polarising discussion prior to the AGM. It should be noted that after the closing of entries for the Festival of Historic Motoring in January, the number of entries had exceed the minimum of 400 required, so the event will go ahead, lockdowns permitting. Nothing is certain nowadays. It is not too late to enter, there will just be a higher entry fee payable.

The only other point of interest from the AGM I think needs consideration is the average age of VCC members. Less than 20% of members are under the age of 60. At the current rate of attrition versus new member growth, the VCC will slowly fizzle out. The endless "boardroom" rows over the logo, the name of the VCC etc, will do nothing to prevent this happening. Branches themselves have to take ownership of making themselves attractive to a wider range of people, who would then join. It was sad to see a pro-active attempt to improve a branch's image presented to the AGM was so roundly talked down. Those talking it down were clearly part of the 80%, and I really don't think they care about a future of the VCC they can't be

a part of. Doing what we do now has got us to this problematic age imbalance. Continuing to protect doing the same will accelerate the VCC's ultimate failure to exist. Maybe the management committee should ask branches to only send delegates under the age of 40 to the next VCC Executive meeting, and the Management Committee just listen, and let the younger group present steer things towards a future more compatible to a younger audience.

We had to cancel our September club run and club night, but a hardy 29 members did attend the midweek outing at the end of September during Alert Level Two. I think this clearly shows an appetite to continue fellowship and activity during these tough times, and I believe branch members are old enough and sensible enough to manage their personal safety. We will require all visitors to the clubrooms to use the QR codes on the front door, and/or record their name in our day book. Please bring face masks. We will have a short club run followed by a picnic on the Saturday planned originally for the replacement Sulphur City date, details elsewhere in this issue.

Speaking of Sulphur City, despite it being cancelled twice this year, we are hoping the planning and effort put in, including sponsor support, can carry through until we are able to run the event in 2022. We will also, lockdowns permitting, have our 10th anniversary Lakefront Car Show on Anniversary weekend next year, Sunday 30 January 2022. The parking for visitors has improved and we can promote the new boardwalk for visitors to have a look at.

We had Michael's Panther in the room at our last club night in August, and we will have Roger's Triumph Stag this month. We will try and keep club nights as normal as possible. Many other branches are having to cancel or suspend events, but at branch level, we should be able to manage a good range of activities under Alert Level Two.

Thanks to Fleur and the ladies who put on a breast cancer fund raiser at the clubrooms, lets hope we still get to see a lot of each other and use our cars over the next few months. Make sure you have a WoF, although there was a short extension during the lockdowns for overdue WoFs. Lets make hay while the sun still dimly shines!

FROM THE SECRETARY

by
Dennis Whimp



It has been decided to have the Wednesday club night under level 2 lockdown rules because almost all our members should by now be double vaccinated against Covid-19. Studies show that two doses of Pfizer vaccine give up to 95% protection against Covid-19 symptoms. None of hospitalised cases in the current Delta outbreak were patients that had been fully vaccinated for at least two weeks before testing positive. When attending the clubroom, please sign in and/or use the tracer application at the door. You may also wear a mask.

I have had dropped off to me 5 three stud wheels that were off an old trailer. No idea of what car they are from. They have very old 5.50x15 and 5.25x16 tyres on them. Wheel stud pcdia is 105mm and they would have had taken a 250mm dia hubcap. Let me know if you want them.

1946 brown Humber 10 that was located at Old Taupo Road around 12 years ago. Alex Hague used to own it many years ago and would like to know if anyone knows where it is now as he would like to repurchase it. Phone him on 022 584 6187

Hillman Hunter ignition switch assembly with key wanted by Maurie Crowe. Phone 07 345 6450.

Brian Old has added another Buick to his collection. This time a 1950 Buick two door fast back which I understand is 17 feet

long. To make room in his garage, he is selling the 1918 Buick Roadster model E44 6 cylinder that has an Australian Holden made body. 1918 was the first year that Holden started making motor bodies. Contact Brian if you are interested.

A big welcome to our latest new members

Malcolm Pearce of Ngongotaha who has a number of motorbikes

Tony and Dianne Perks of Lake Tarawera who have a 1966 Austin Sprite convertible.

We look forward to seeing you at our functions and runs.

Sweet Louise Tea Party by Fleur Tomlinson Clubrooms, 10th October 2021

I have to say a huge thank to especially to Jude Thomas for her help with setting up and making the clubrooms look ready for the Tea Party. Also a big thank you to Jolene Hossack and Carol Harper for all your help.

Thank you to the ladies who took time out of their weekend who came along to attend the Sweet Louise High Tea party. Sweet Louise is a Charity for woman suffering from incurable breast cancer. Through all of your kindness we managed to raise a total of \$500 to help out some families with meals and home help.

It was lovely to sit and have girly chat with yummy treats, and get to know more about each other and the journeys we have been on ourselves.

August Car In The Room *by Michael Thorne*

1988 Panther Kallista (Greek = beautiful)

My Kallista was manufactured in June 1988 in Essex, UK and immediately shipped to NZ and first registered in Dec 1988.

Dr Green of Ashburton purchased the car in 1994 @ 5604mls. I purchased the car from Dr Green through Bains Motor House in May 2014 @ 17400 miles. I had it checked out and serviced, then flew to Christchurch and drove the car back to Rotorua. Its not the most practical of cars but I've had 7 years of fun. With no power steering, no ABS, no STC, discs on the front only and 50 year old technology its "seat of the pants" driving. Its peppy motor and a light weight body combine for quick performance. Just ask the Stag boys and Rocky's GT6 why they cant keep up with me.

Panther Car Company

Founded in 1972 by Bob Jankel, production was originally based in Essex but the production plant moved a few times. Panther produced a range of models including the J72 based on an XJ6 (Jaguar SS100 'look a like' but ugly) and the 3 axled Panther 6. They also produced a Lima, based on a Vauxhall 1.4L motor and running gear. In 1980 the company encountered financial trouble so was sold to Young C Kim (son of the family who owned the giant Jindo Industries of South Korea). Young Kim wanted to get into sports cars and with an unlimited budget ordered a successor to the Lima. Using a purpose built chassis the Kallista used Ford running gear and a 2.8L V6 or a 1.6L in-line 4. The design brief was to look like a Morgan. The car is listed as an aluminium body but steel doors and fibreglass guards were also used. Apparently it took seven men, three months to build a car. In 1987 Ssang Yong took over Jindo and in 1990 production was moved to Korea, where only 78 cars were produced using a 2.3L motor. In 1991 production was closed but kept a parts company in the UK. The parts company closed in 1995 and the stock was purchased by

Bruno Eismark, a long time employee of Panther and still operates today. The Panther Car Club is strong in the UK and Europe.

The NZ Connection

There are 4 x 2.8L and 2 x 1.6L Kallista's in NZ. In 1987 Bevan McNabb of Rutherford Motors, Nelson, imported 5 Kallista's into NZ. I saw a copy in a car magazine dated May 1989 which lists the Kallista @ \$55900. They didn't sell. Bevan kept one and the other 4 were shipped to Australia. I have just sold my Panther to Mark of Christchurch. The car was checked out before purchase by Mark's father Ken, who was the original Production Manager for Panther in the UK.

Technical Stuff

Ford 2.8L V6 (initially a Granada engine, but later a Cologne)	
135HP @ 5200rpm	Torque 159 lbs.ft @ 3000rpm
Carb - Solex twin venturi	5 speed, 309 diff
Discs front / drums back	Rack and Pinion steering
Kerb weight 905Kg	0 to 60mph - 7.5sec
Top speed 120+ mph	Production 974 cars (1982-90)



Midweekers, 29 September *by Dennis Brown*

The clubrooms were a buzz of chatter before heading up to Middleton Road to see 'Blerta'. 'Blerta' is a 1963 Humber 90 that was "rescued" on TradeMe for \$500, 5 years ago. She was complete, if not, much the worse for wear. She had been sitting under partial cover for the last 20 years, is my guess. There was an accentuated line of rust on half of the roof. The engine was seized solid. Had to beat the pistons out with a sledge hammer and piece of wood. Why did I buy it? God knows. I had the idea of sanding it and filling the holes in various places with bog. The further I got into stripping and sanding, the further the stripping went. With half of our years spent overseas progress was slow.

Never having had any experience of body work I asked a local panelbeater if he would repair large rust holes in panels for me? "No, but if you want to bring them to my workshop, I'll show you how to do it yourself," said Mark Lysaght of Central Panelbeaters. What a wonderful gesture and how grateful I was to accept his offer. Over the months Mark had me cutting and welding and gaining confidence and competence, and through it, a new friend.

The Humber Car Club have been helpful through their parts man Graeme Ekins, in Palmerston North. New engine, suspension, brake parts have come direct from Speedy Spares in Sussex, UK. Rossco Engine reconditioners rebored the engine and lightly skimmed the crankshaft for me.

What a bonus Covid has been! For the last year Jen has only seen me at meal times and Blerta has slowly revealed herself to be not such an ugly duckling. Oh! there's still a long way to go to get her road ready but it's been a journey of discovery and so much

pleasure and satisfaction. The cost... irrelevant.

With nearly 30 members pouring over her, there were bound to be some helpful hints. Bill and Geoff were very observant to see that the water pump pulley was out of alignment. Thanks guys!

While us blokes were discussing mechanical things, the girls were rolling their eyes and talking about gardening matters. Jen was grateful for tips received.

Leaving Middleton Road at 11.15am was perfect for arriving at The Trading Post in Paengaroa for a well earned lunch at 12 noon.

The weather wasn't what we were hoping for, as some of us braved the outside seating until there was space inside for all.

Another great turnout. Thank you to the following:

Geoff & Christine, Roger & Diana, Michael & Denise, Helen & Graham, Ronald & Gloria, Bob & Pat, Les & Thelma, David & Jill, Jenny & John, Bill & Adelai, Doug, Maurie, Pat, Shona, Lois, Allan, Peter, Dorothy and Paul.

There was an impressive array of cars. A Chrysler Charger, MG's, Triumph Stag's, a Vitesse, a 2500, Rover 3.5, Morris Minor, Hillman Hunter, Jaguar and an array of moderns.

At Ronald's suggestion the return trip to Rotorua was via the scenic route of TeMatai Road. A good choice.

So, all in all an enjoyable day. Sadly the weather wasn't warm but it was great to meet and enjoy each others company.

A BIG 'thank you' to all who attended.

Spring Tour - Oct/Nov 2021

CANCELLED

Sadly, but I am sure not unexpectedly, we have had to cancel our Spring Tour. As there was no certainty as to whether we could cross the Auckland boundary and as cases appear to be spreading, there was really no alternative. I am very sorry to disappoint all the participants, but hope we can reschedule when times are more certain.

Jenny Cole

WANTED

Austin 7 Stop light switch, phone Maurie on 345 6540

VCC AGM - Christchurch, August 2021



CLUB NIGHT - October 13th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1975 Triumph Stag

Followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

October Club Run Saturday, 16th October

Since we may still have some visitors who could not cancel their accommodation, and can still travel to Rotorua, we will put on a club run on Saturday, 16th October. We will start from the club rooms with the first car away at 10.30am and have a short run followed by a BYO picnic. The picnic venue will be close to the middle of town, or if inclement weather back at the club rooms.

More details at club night, but make sure you are at the club rooms before 10.30am to take part, bring a picnic lunch and chairs etc.

October Midweekers Wednesday, 27th October

We will stay close to home, presuming Rotorua stays in Level 2 of course. Meeting at the club rooms at 10.00am we can slowly make our way over to the Eastwood Café at Scion, at the end of Longmile Road, for Brunch at 11.30am.

If anyone has a project close by that they would like to share with us, which we could fit in before Brunch, please let me know.

As the café needs accurate numbers for seating, I will count a show of hands at the club meeting on the 13th, but if you are not attending and would like to join us could you please phone or text me 021 029 75988.

Many thanks, Jenny Cole

COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
Oct 2021	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	16	Club Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
	27	Midweekers Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
Nov 2021	10	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	14	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	24	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
Dec 2021	8	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	12	High Tea Run	TBA	TBA	
Jan 2022	30	Lakefront Car Show	10am-2pm	Village Green	
Feb 2022	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	13	BBQ Run	TBA	TBA	
	23	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	

www.rvcc.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.

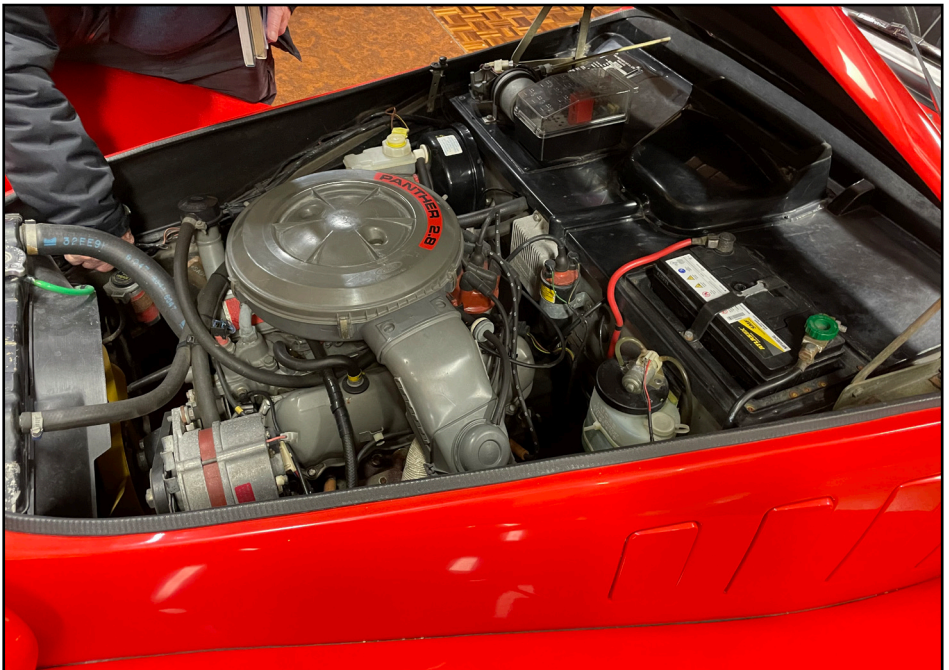
Contributions to Side Curtains

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.

“Sweet Louise” Fund Raiser



August Car In The Room



September Midweekers

