

# SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the  
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND  
VETERAN CAR CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2024



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

# Sulphur City Rally 2024



# SIDE CURTAINS - September 2024

The magazine of the ROTORUA  
VINTAGE AND VETERAN CAR CLUB

**Clubrooms:** Neil Hunt Park, Tarawera Rd, Rotorua

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**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** - Hayden Duncan  
rotorua@vcc.org.nz      021 939 705

**Treasurer** - Dennis Whimp

**Club Captain**  
Terry Wadsworth

**Asst. Club Captain**  
vacant

**Committee**  
Ronald Mayes  
Neville Harper  
Geoff Nitz  
Alan Judd  
John Newson

**Mid Weekers** - vacant

**Side Curtains Editor** - David Tomlinson  
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**Beaded Wheels** - Ronald Mayes

**Library** - Dennis Kenny, Ronald Mayes

**VIC Inspectors** - Ronald Mayes, Geoff  
Nitz, Hayden Duncan

**Flowers** - Doreen Green

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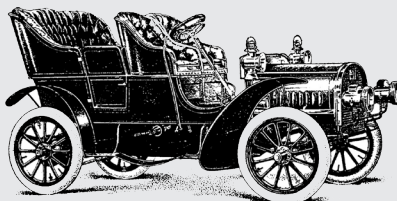
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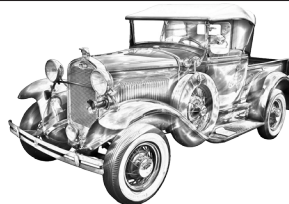
### Cover Photos

Front - 1929 Graham Paiges

Back - Sulphur City Rally 2024

## 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 2024

*by David Tomlinson*



Our August club night changed things up a little with Ronald Mayes bringing in 8mm reel tape video, projector and screen to play movie footage he took of the 1980 International Rally held in Rotorua, including scenes from the track at Bay Park in Mt Maunganui. This was followed by a movie of a train journey he took in the 1970s.

As we are not able to put together an event for the National VCC Day/Daffodil Day due to our commitments spread thinly with the Sulphur City Rally the week after, branch members were encouraged to look at the options at neighbouring branches on the day. There are a couple of items later in this edition, with members attending both the BOP and Waikato branch events, which were both very successful.

Fleur and I decided the Waikato branch's event suited us best. They had 5 starting points which then had a short rally to their clubrooms. We joined in at Matamata and met up with many others we knew well there, including former branch members David and Jill Philps, and also a large contingent from the Waikato Mustang Owners Club, of which Fleur and I are also members. We took our recently acquired 1956 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud, which was an inspired choice, as the number of cars at the event saw most cars parking on overflow lawns all round the main property their clubrooms are a part of, but we were ushered in with a limited few others to park in their main clubrooms parking area. It was an enjoyable day out.



Our biggest run of the year, the annual Sulphur City Rally, was held on the last day of August, and 35 club eligible vehicles made it to the start line. The event was put together very ably by Nathalie Descat with help from Les Martin and his family, and a small group of other branch members. This was the first time Nathalie had organised a large scale event for the branch and it was a fabulous day, even with a bit of rain thrown in. The event was scaled back a little from past years, but if Nathalie and Les had not stepped up we would not have held the event at all this year. Thanks Nathalie, Les and all others that contributed to the day.

Sadly, two of the vintage class cars had to be towed home, both local cars, both with fuel issues. Otherwise, 33 cars made it over the hills, on SH1, in some poor weather at times, travelling almost 300km on the day. We had two cars from the same family attend from Gisborne, including a younger couple with two young children, who did the whole event in a 1930 Ford Model A sedan, what an effort!

In early September I attended the All Ford Day at Claudelands, Hamilton, helping with the parking marshalling. The turn out was huge, several hundred cars including American, Australian, British and European Fords. People's choice was an immaculate Ford Falcon XC Cobra coupe tribute car. It was much bigger than our annual Lakefront Car Show, and it was challenging to get cars in and out during the day, but it was a very successful, well run, event.

Our September club night has a car in the room again, this time it will be my "accidental" purchase at the recent Webbs Auction, a 1956 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud.

Our monthly club run will be held at the end of the month

on Sunday, 29 September. This will be a visit to the annual Pirongia Craft Day markets, which we have done a couple of times in the recent past, followed by sorting your own lunch at the markets, then on to visit a collection nearby around 1.30pm, before returning home. Further details elsewhere in this issue. It promises to be a good day out, and plenty of non-car things to see (and buy!) on the day.

Please note that the annual subscriptions for VCC membership have been recently sent out to all members (by email where possible). If you have not received your annual subscription invoice you need to follow this up through the national office or with help from our branch secretary Hayden. If you have got the invoice, please pay it on time. It saves our committee time and energy chasing up overdue people on behalf of the national office.

In October we will have a club run on Sunday 13th, details in the next issue of Side Curtains. In November our club activity will be taking part in the Rotorua Lakes Council Heritage Week, more details to follow, but we are aiming to have a range of vehicles displayed near the library on Saturday, 23rd. In December we will have our annual Posh Picnic/High Tea run, likely on Sunday 15th.

We will also have our annual Xmas Social on Saturday night, 7 December, at the Distinction Hotel. This will be free of charge for all members who volunteered at our Swap Meet in June. More details in the next issue of Side Curtains.

Lastly, the 12th edition of our annual Lakefront Car Show at the Village Green has been signed off by Council. This will be held a week later than usual, on Sunday, 26 January 2025. This is Auckland Anniversary weekend, and will also mean we won't have our usual clash with the Kumeu show in Auckland.

## BOP Branch Daffodil Day *by Neville Harper*

Carol and I set off for Tauranga Vintage Car Club at 8am on a fine Sunday morning and stopped at Cafe 414 for our compulsory coffee and date loaf (date loaf to die for and the coffee is damn good too).

When we arrived at the Tauranga branch the show cars were already about half full. They separated the cars into areas and there must have been approximately 200 cars. Lexus was their main sponsor and had sponsored a whole page advertisement in the local newspaper. They also had some Lexus IBX's on display. The club did a great job of providing food as well as a sausage sizzle. They also had Mr Whippy and a coffee cart there to help feed the masses. They had tappet cover races which involved running tappet covers with wheels upside down on a race track. That was entertaining and something a bit different.

The range of vehicles on display was fantastic ranging from several vintage cars up to late models cars. Rotorua cars on display were our Studebaker, Ronald Mayes in his Triumph 2000 and Michael Thorne in his Rover. Ken Thomas was also there in his Citroen.

We had a briefing at midday and the first cars were away on the rally left at 12.30pm. The rally went for approximately 1 1/2 hours and went through the hills around Oropi then out onto SH36 heading back towards Rotorua. Left onto Te Matai Road and drove through Te Puke heading for Tauranga and through to the Motor Caravan Association park on Welcome Bay Road for a welcome afternoon tea.

We must commend Tauranga branch for their mighty effort to run such a well organised event and we're sure they will have a substantial sum to donate to the Cancer Society. Well done!





# Sulphur City Rally 2024

*by Fleur Tomlinson*

There was somewhat of a debate before the rally of what car Kate and I would be in for the rally. I was insistent that we would be in our usual car the Mercedes 350 SL but Dave has just purchased a 1956 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud and was rather proud of his new purchase and was persistent that Kate and I use that in the rally. Having only driven it once from Hamurana to Hall Road I was a bit nervous considering the weather on the day so my I won out and got my choice, the Merc.

The day of rally was somewhat of mixed bag when it came to the weather gods. It was heavy showers one minute and then next clear skies and sunshine. All cars lined up in the car park ready for our days adventure. I could not have had a better navigator. Kate had her pen and clip board in the ready for our day's adventure and soon we were rolling up to the start line to get our instructions for the day. Geoff and Dennis handed over our bits of paper to quickly scroll over and soon we were on our way.

A quick little roam about the town before we were out on the country roads out on State Highway 30 heading off towards Waikete Valley. Kate and I did very well spotting 7 out of the 8 silent checks, thr only one we didn't seem to spot was MG. We missed a few of the questions, and soon found ourselves at the lunch spot a lovely country school.

The games at the lunch spot were so much fun and so well thought out. The lunch, we could not have asked for any better. Where can you go and get a 3 course meal for \$25 and be served at your table by lovely mannered children. It was amazing. The pumpkin soup was beautiful. The main was a plate full of salad, roast beges, roast lamb, corned beef, roast pork followed by a plate of beautiful cake slices. Tea, coffee and water refreshments.

Once lunch was done we were back on the road for another afternoon adventure back to Rotorua. That took us back towards

Putaruru and Tirau, then over the Mamakus where we sadly lost one car due to a break down. Then around Lake Rotorua via Hamurana back to the club rooms for afternoon tea and prize giving.

Soon the car club was buzzing with cars, people and more food. Mini pies, sausage rolls, home baking, it seemed to be a day of food and cars. Soon the winners were all announced and prizes handed out.

I can't thank Nathalie and Les enough for what was a wonderful Sulphur City Rally. For their first ever run they did a fantastic job so deserve a huge congratulations for a job well done. It was such a fun day that everyone enjoyed from start to finish.



# Waikato Branch Daffodil Day *by Fleur Tomlinson*

An early start for the Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud and a chance for Dave to show off his new purchase. We headed off bright and early for Matamata. We were lucky with good weather as we headed over the Mamakus and met up with the Waikato VCC branch, Waikato Mustang Club and others at the Matamata RSA. The car park and street was full of cars from old classics to brand new performance cars. Many locals standing out on the street waving as we drove past. After gathering in the carpark we were given instructions to drive through country roads towards the Waikato VCC clubrooms in Cambridge. We headed off in convoy with old, new, V8, V6, small, large, some with horse power and some with very little. As we approached the clubrooms we were given instructions on where to park and of course the Silver Cloud was given pride and place next to the clubrooms.

Meeting up in Cambridge was the Mini Club, MX5 club, and a few other car groups joining in the convoy all for Daffodil Day. Hundreds of cars soon filled up the surrounding paddocks and car parks. Coffee cart, sausage sizzles, raffles, home baking and fudge. Always great to catch up with people from other car clubs and groups and as always a fun charity run and event put on by Waikato raising alot of money for Daffodil day.





# All Ford Day, Hamilton 2024



# Waikato Branch Daffodil Day





# CLUB NIGHT - September 11th

Neil Hunt Park - 7.30pm

Car In The Room: 1956 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud

Followed by tea and coffee.

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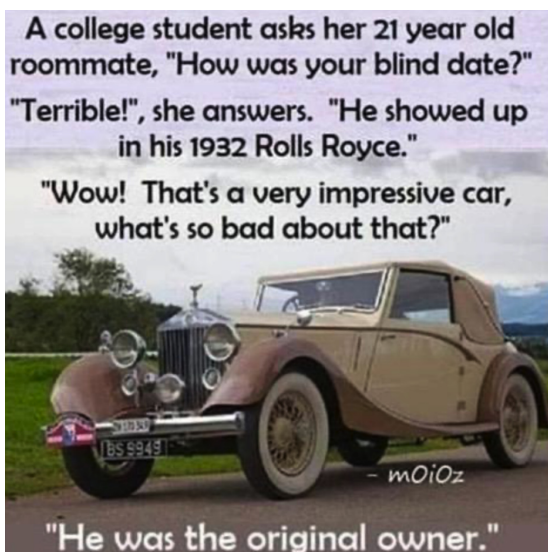
## Club Run to Pirongia Craft Day

Saturday, 29th September

The annual Pirongia Craft Day markets are open from 9am to 3pm in the main street of Pirongia. You can make your own way there, but if you wish to meet on the way and travel the last part of the journey in convoy, meet at Arapuni's Rhubarb Cafe at 9am for a coffee before travelling on to Pirongia. We may be able to arrange a parking area on the day, more details will be available on club night.

After time to look around and shop arrange your own lunch while there, then we will leave at around 1.30pm to visit a collection nearby. After this visit make your own way home.

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# COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
Sept 2024	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	29	Pirongia Club Run	early	Pirongia Craft Day	11
	TBA	Midweekers	TBA	TBA	
Oct 2024	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	13	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	TBA	Midweekers	TBA	TBA	
Nov 2024	13	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	23	Heritage Week	TBA	Rotorua Library area	
	TBA	Midweekers	TBA	TBA	
Dec 2024	7	Xmas Social	6.30pm	Distinction Hotel	
	11	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	15	Posh Picnic	TBA	TBA	
Jan 2025	26	Lakefront Car Show	8am	Village Green	

[www.rvcc.org.nz](http://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.

# Sulphur City Rally 2024



Some of the school lunch volunteers





# Sulphur City Rally 2024

