



AUCKLAND VETERAN & VINTAGE CAR CLUB INC.



The Bulletin

June 2023



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July Bulletin closing date

Strictly 25 June 2023

Late submissions will feature in the following month’s edition.

Cover Designed by Melanie Ball



The views expressed by the correspondents in this Bulletin are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Auckland Veteran & Vintage Car Club Inc. Any articles of interest, comments, letters to the Editor etc are welcome. All contributions are presented to and approved by the club committee prior to printing. Please forward any submissions to the Bulletin Editor avcceditor@gmail.com.

COMING EVENTS

All events are held at our clubrooms unless otherwise specified.

JUNE

3rd	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
3-4		Irishman Rally - hosted by Canterbury Branch	
4th	Sun	Fish & Chip Run starts at Jolly Farmer Carpark, Great South Rd, Drury	11:00am
8th	Thur	Constitution Discussion - update and feedback on this ongoing project	7:30pm
10th	Sat	Waikato Double 50 hosted by Waikato Branch	
10th	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting (<i>one week early!</i>)	2:30pm
17th	Sat	Vintage Meeting (<i>one week early!</i>)	2:30pm
21st	Wed	Mid-week Tourer's Run CANCELLED refer to notes	
22nd	Thur	Pre AGM Noggin & Natter	7:30pm
24th	Sat	Branch AGM @ the clubrooms	2:00pm
25th	Sun	Club Run – starts Morrison's Florists, 222 Universal Drive, Henderson	11:00am
27th	Tue	Committee Meeting	7:30pm
28th	Wed	Charabanc Maintenance Night	8:00pm

JULY

1st	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
1-2		Winter Woollies Wander - hosted by Wellsford Branch	
9th	Sun	Central North Island Swap Meet - hosted by Rotorua Branch	7am-2pm
12th	Wed	Mid-week Tourer's Run or 19th - start & date TBA	10:00am
13th	Thur	Noggin & Natter	7:30pm
15th	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting	2:30pm
22nd	Sat	Meet'n'Greet for New Members - refer details on page 16	2:30pm
23rd	Sun	Ladies Lunch - refer details on page 15	12:00 noon
25th	Tue	Committee Meeting	7:30pm
26th	Wed	Charabanc Maintenance Night	8:00pm
27th	Thur	Club Night	7:30pm
29th	Sat	Vintage Meeting	2:30pm
30th	Sun	Club Run - Ladies Run	

AUGUST

5th	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
10th	Thur	Noggin & Natter	7:30pm
12-13		National AGM - hosted by Nelson Branch	
16th	Wed	Mid-week Tourer's Run - start TBA	10:00am
19th	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting	2:30pm
19th	Sat	Quiz Night - "Believe it or Not"	7:30pm
20th	Sun	National Daffodil Day Fundraiser	
23rd	Wed	Charabanc Maintenance Night	8:00pm
24th	Thur	Club Night	7:30pm
26th	Sat	Vintage Meeting	2:30pm
26th	Sat	Sulphur City Rally hosted by Rotorua Branch	
27th	Sun	Club Run	
29th	Tue	Committee Meeting	7:30pm

Note: The clubrooms are open on the second and fourth Thursday evenings of the month from 7:30pm until 10:00pm and EVERY Saturday afternoon from 4:30pm until 6:30pm. Our Spares Dept & Library are open during the clubrooms opening hours PLUS Thursday mornings from 9:30am 'til noon.

This has been a busy month at 39 Fairfax Ave. Quotes from Blind and Curtain and Outdoor Shelter firms have been received and it is hoped that you will see the results of these over the next few weeks.



Russel McAlpine has had a working bee group scraping, sanding, and painting the window frames and security bars ready for the new blinds to be hung. Thank you for all your hard work guys.

I had a report that our Retention Tanks did their job during the most recent deluge we received. One of our members monitoring the clubrooms called around to inspect the property and found the tanks on the left side of the barn were half to three quarters full, with the right side front tank full. This water was slowly being released into our soak hole as planned. Thankfully, no water entered the clubrooms. Long may that last!

Members who entered the Vintage Muster enjoyed a great day of motoring over lovely countryside in the Franklin District. Thank you to Mike and Liz Hilliar for plotting this for us. I'm sure you spent many hours plotting, going over the route ensuring it was correct so that no one would get lost.

I have had good reports from Section Meeting Leaders stating all have been well attended and many members present have brought along interesting objects to show and discuss.

As I write this, the Mid Week Tourer's Tour to Okoroire, organised by Norman and Pat Dewhurst, is underway. Norman and Pat always go out of their way organising these tours and I'm sure those who are on this trip will have a great time. We look forward to hearing about it on their return.

The Club Run for this month was our annual Experts Run. Russel and Jocelyn McAlpine plotted a great run for all to enjoy.

Martin Spicer, once again, organised a large number of motorcycles for display on our club stand at the annual New Zealand Motorcycle Show at the Trusts Stadium, Henderson. This show is a 'not to be missed' event for those interested in motorcycles.

Our AGM is just around the corner. Please get those nomination forms in. We are looking for a new Treasurer and some committee members are standing down. Remember ALL positions become vacant at this time. So now is the time to act if you want change.

See you out and about.

Shaaran

Chairman's Annual Report

Our 2022 AGM, postponed from June, was finally held in August owing to lockdowns and our clubrooms being closed due to flood water entering and covering the entire bottom level.

Just one week after the AGM, our branch hosted the National AGM at Karaka and held the Sunday lunch in the Barn. As you can imagine, this was quite a mission as the clubrooms were closed. However, we stepped up to the occasion and catered for the large group who all enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Lynda Spicer and helpers for organising this.

Major maintenance work, lead by members Rory King and Warwick Darrow, started on the Barn shortly after this and over two months the exterior of the barn was painted, and the roofing iron was renewed. This was a mammoth task for the many club members who turned up each day and donated their time. Thank you, guys.

After two floods entering the bottom level of the clubrooms, it was decided to seek advice. The result being that eight 1000 litre retention tanks were installed and have been proved successful.

It was great to be able to get back into the 'swing of things' and say goodbye to zoom meetings. After months of cancellations and postponements, we were able to get back to some form of normality and resume our usual activities.

With the introduction of emailed Bulletins, our Bulletin Mailing Night has been replaced with "Noggin & Natter" Thursday evenings being held on the second Thursday of each month. Although numbers are small, these nights are a lot of fun.

Our branch had the privilege of hosting a very successful 2023 Vintage Car Club National Veteran Rally. Thanks to Barry and Nicola Birchall and a small team including John Stokes and John Morrison who put together a great event held at La Valla, Tuakau. Thanks, must also go to Roland Howell, Onehunga Towing, who supplied and drove a backup tow truck for the event, and to the marshals and helpers on the daily activities.

Along with the branch committee, who have stepped up to the mark and supported me throughout a very busy year, I would also like to thank the following people who have held our branch together over very trying times:

The Mid Week Tourer plotters – Norman & Pat Dewhurst and Jack Nazer.

Our Bar Managers - Leo Fowler and Charlotte Bovis.

The Library team - Led by Richard Green.

The Spares team - Led by Bill Hulse.

Garden Maintenance - Jocelyn and Russel McAlpine.

The Charabanc team - Led by John Stokes.

Beaded Wheels Scribes - John Stokes, Jocelyn McAlpine and Peter Wood.

Section Leaders - John Stokes (Veteran Section), Murray Firth (Vintage Section),

Martin Spicer (Motorcycle Section).

VIC Officers - Mike O'Kane, John Stokes, Alan Price & Neil Stott

I look forward to a much better year ahead. May the weather man treat us more kindly and enable you to attend the many events this branch has to offer.

Shaaran Price.

Auckland Veteran & Vintage Car Club Inc.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 24th June 2023

To be held at the branch clubrooms
39 Fairfax Ave, Penrose

Meeting commences at 2:00pm

Agenda: Apologies
 Annual Reports
 Financial Statement
 Election of Officers
 Prize Giving
 25 & 35 Year Presentation Awards
 General Business

Afternoon Tea will be provided.

Members are requested to show their membership cards to receive voting papers.

All nominations for office should be duly proposed, seconded and accepted by Financial Members and delivered to the Secretary, or may be made from the floor at the AGM, if required.

Tracey Winterbottom
Secretary AVVCC

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Another busy month down, King's Birthday is almost here, one more holiday in July and then the long slog to Labour Day at the end of October!

The AGMs are almost here, I hope to see many of you at our own AGM later this month, and then the National AGM is in early August in the wonderful city of Nelson.

Please consider your branch, the how and who. While we welcome discussion at our noggin and natter nights each month, the AGM is your opportunity to raise your ideas, questions, concerns in a more formal setting, and vote for those you want to see running the branch. See you there!

Come along next week to Thursday's noggin and natter to discuss the latest feedback on how the Club will set up a new structure within the constitution to meet the new Incorporated Societies Act. This is a live document that needs plenty more discussion, I need to give feedback to Christchurch (along with the other branches) and then we will have further discussion at the AGM in August, with the plan still to have final documents for voting on by all members next year.

In July we are trying something new for new members with a Saturday afternoon specifically geared to them. All members are welcome to attend and meet new members, we will be able to spend more time showing them around, ensuring they are aware of all our facilities, explaining how different events and things work and allowing time for questions in an informal smaller setting.

In years gone by the branch has had a very active "Ladies Section". While times are different now and a regular ladies meeting is not so relevant, we are going to hold a "Ladies Lunch" for all current ladies and also extend to any past members who may like to catch up. See the ad elsewhere and if you know of others no longer in the club who were part of the ladies section in the early days let them know.

Please support our Daffodil Day activities in August, this is our opportunity to promote the club to the general public and raise money for a cause that I'm sure most of us have been touched by in some form or other.

Finally, we are thinking of Eileen Roberts, Shirly Bovis, Charlotte Bovis and Wayne and Carrie Roberts and the wider Roberts family in their loss of a husband, father, and grandfather. Alan, was a life member of Auckland Branch and gave much of his life to Vintage Car Club activities. I am privileged to say I have known him through the VCC for all of my life.

Thanks
Tracey

Nomination Form

For Committee & Non-Committee Positions

All positions are available for nomination, here is your opportunity to put your name or someone else's forward, with their permission, for the following positions: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Captain or Committee Member (6 positions). Non-committee positions: Librarian, Beaded Wheels Scribe, Bulletin Editor & Web Master.

I wish to nominate: _____

For the Position of: _____

Proposer

Second

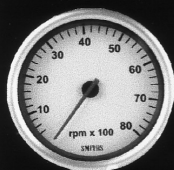
Name: _____

Signed: _____

Nominee

Name: _____ Signed: _____

Please submit by email or in person to the Secretary, Tracey Winterbottom, at any time up 1:30pm, Saturday 24th June. The Annual General Meeting is being held at 2:00pm, Saturday 24th June, in the AVCC Clubrooms. Email: auckland@vcc.org.nz



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CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Wow, this is the final Club Captain's report for this financial year. Where has the year gone? It has been a pleasure getting you out and about during the year and, thank goodness, not having to deal any more with floods, insurance companies, bad tradesmen or covid lockdowns. We have been able to enjoy the club and the clubrooms, uninterrupted.

This will be my final report as your Club Captain, as I feel that after 6 years it is time for someone else to take the reins. I have clocked up thousands of kilometres plotting runs and checking rallies and it is time that Martin and I can start taking part in events both at our club and maybe an out of town event or two. We have two vehicles which have sat dormant for the last 6 years due to club commitments with Martin being Chairman for 5 years and me Club Captain for 6.

I would like to thank all the people who have plotted the Annual Ladies Run, the Experts Run and to those that have plotted the Annual Rally Trophy events during my tenure. I would especially like to acknowledge Debbie Ballantyne, Val Ball and Dianne Poole who helped me when I organised two huge dinners, our July, Independence Day Covid Dinner and our second one the 50th Anniversary of the owning the club rooms along with the Charabanc being back on the road. Both evenings we catered for 75 people. Without their assistance it would have been very difficult.

John Stokes' Veteran meetings and Penny & Murray Firth's Vintage Meerings continue to get good attendance.

Martin's motorcycle meeting was attended by 60 plus members to listen to the 'Guinness Book of Records acknowledged World's Oldest Competition Motorcycle Racer: - Mr Les Harris. See Martin's report for all the details.

The monthly club night was attended by about 40 people. For those that didn't attend you missed an interesting and sometimes challenging topic of AI. Artificial Intelligence. See Entertainment notes.

The Mid Week Tourers section also had their three days away – Norm talks about this in his report.

Finally for the month we had the Experts Run today, which was plotted by Russel & Jocelyn McAlpine. This was also the club run. Again, disappointing numbers – 10 entrants in all, which included Don Green on his lovely Norton motorcycle, and Martin and I in our modern vehicle - 7 of us coming from the South. Where were all you people who live on the Shore or out West? as it started in Royal Reserve, Massey. It was a good run, included some straight line navigation which Martin and I hadn't done for many years, and we didn't get lost. We finished at the largest Palmers Garden Centre I have ever seen, for lunch and it was great being able to sit around the table with like minded people having a good chin wag. Thanks Russel & Jocelyn for an excellent run.

Martin had a display of about 24 motorcycles at the Auckland Motorcycle Show in Henderson two weeks ago – very well received and during this time he handed out a number of

pamphlets about our branch and we have subsequently had a couple of new members join. Thank you Martin.

Please check your Bulletin for coming events and make a note of them. Our committee endeavours to make this a club for all to enjoy, whether it be coming to our Noggin n Natter evenings. Club nights (where we always have a guest speaker) or taking part in the monthly runs or rallies – this is your Club so do come along to events and enjoy them.

Coming Up:

June John Morrison's run out to Whangaparaoa to see a car collection. See page 23 for further details.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Committee members for their support and support of the club. They have worked extraordinarily hard and you are reaping the benefits of this. It is not an onerous job being on the committee and as there are a few of the team standing down this year, if you would like to join us, put your name forward and join us at the AGM on the 24th.

Keep those 2,3 and 4 wheels turning safely and I will see you all out and about.

Lynda Spicer

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Club Captain's Annual Report

Another 12 months has passed since I did my last annual report. Although 2022/2023 did not have any lockdowns, we still had restriction of use of the clubrooms, until the middle of October. This was due, of course, to the ongoing repairs required after flooding earlier in 2022.

There were issues with second grade carpet being supplied, having to be ripped up again, and waiting for the correct carpet to be sourced and laid, incorrect and second grade vinyl being provided, again having to be ripped up and replaced. A special thanks goes to Owen Hayward for assisting us in this tedious task.

New toilets were installed but couldn't be used properly as the pans were too close to the wall. An interesting time dealing with tradesman who lacked the necessary care, attention and skills.

Along with all of this was the massive job of re-instating the library.

Thank you to everyone for your patience. It certainly tried my patience being the coordinator of all the Insurance repair issues but I was always able to keep a smile on my face.

Notwithstanding the above, we were able to keep the club going one way or another with events.

You will have seen the monthly reports of where we have been and what members have been up to so I won't go over these again.

We were the hosts for the 2022 National AGM in August which was based at Doubletree Hotel in Karaka. However, the final luncheon was held up in the barn. Yes, a hot lunch served, tables laid and set with flowers, enjoyed in the ambience of the Charabanc. A successful event pulled together by the committee.

In February we hosted the National Veteran Rally and all thanks to Barry Birchall and his team for hosting a wonderful event..

There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes, such as club room maintenance, garden upkeep, finance, licences, attending executive meetings and national AGM meetings, runs and rallies being plotted or overseen and all this is done on a voluntary basis. Many hours each month are spent by your hardworking committee to ensure you have a brilliant branch to come to and enjoy the events we put on.

To that end I would like to thank my fellow Committee members for their untiring work, Shaaran Price, Martin Spicer, Tracey Winterbottom, Don Green, Alastair Moffat, John Morrison, Glenn Morris, Russel McAlpine, Jodi Tomlin, Jeremy Lambert and Harvey Brewer. Also thanks to the library team who have had a tough time this past 12 months, Leo

Fowler & Charlotte Bovis our Bar Managers, our Spares team and to the small team that keep the Charabanc on the road and up to scratch.

I would also like to pass on my personal thanks to Martin, who promotes this branch wherever and whenever he can, attending other events. So far this year he has had a stall and held the AVVCC banner, taking along information about our club to the final Pukekohe Motorcycle Festival, the Brits & Euro Car Show in Pakuranga and to the Auckland Motorcycle Show in Henderson and it is pleasing to note that at every show we have got new members to join our club.

Lots of additional maintenance has been completed this year, with Rory King leading the team of people who renovated the barn – what a barnstorming job they did.

Russel and Glenn who have installed additional drainage tanks to stop future flooding and also rebuilding part of the bar to house two new chillers.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my 6th and final year as Club Captain and look forward to taking part in events for the 2023/2024 year.

Kia Kaha

Look forward to seeing you out and about

Lynda Spicer

June Club Run

Sunday 25th June

starts 11:00am from Morrisons Florist
222 Universal Drive, Henderson

A run to Alan Woolfe's Motoring Cave at Whangaparaoa

Alan has a nice collection of cars that he raced in New Zealand as well as other interesting cars and a motorbike. He also has a great collection of information on New Zealand's early motor sport.

BYO lunch and picnic chairs.
Tea and Coffee will be provided.

Annual Maintenance & Building Report

The committee, together with some help of club member volunteers have been working hard on building maintenance this year.

The downstairs flooding meant a lot of disruption but it is great now to have our bathrooms with new vanities and toilets plus new lino. The flooding issue caused us not only to check our drainage but look at future proofing for further weather events by installing retention tanks – 3 each side of the Barn and 2 on one side of the clubrooms. They are working well and now have wOoden trellises in front of them for aesthetics.

The Barn has had a total batten refit and repaint, plus a brand new roof. This was a mammoth effort by a good number of club members which certainly proved the old adage 'many hands make light work'. The Barn has also had some safety strips put on the stairwell tread and some new LED lighting upstairs.

Within the clubrooms themselves the bar area has had two new chillers installed, after the failure of the old chiller, plus a mini-refurbishment. The present task of painting window frames and grills and replacing the curtains with blinds is well underway. Quotes for an archgola over the upstairs terrace, so we can further utilise this space, are being obtained.

The committee appreciate the help of fellow members this year and are looking to extend the list of those who are interested in being contacted when a task is too much for just the committee. Let's keep our clubrooms up to date, functional and a place we can all be proud of.

Russel McAlpine



You are invited to join us ...

Sunday 23rd July

12 noon

for a

Ladies Lunch

Time to catchup, reminisce and tell stories.

An elegant lunch will be served
by some of our dear
Gentlemen

\$15.00 per ticket.

R.S.V.P. to Jodi
auckland@vcc.org.nz
021 678 258

Include any dietary requirements please?

**To our New Members
(since Jan 2020)**

Meet'n'Greet

**Saturday, July 22nd
2:30pm**

Here is an opportunity to meet fellow members, section co-ordinators and your committee.

Join us for Afternoon Tea & Sausage Sizzle.

We'll show you around the clubrooms if you haven't been here before?

We'll talk about the regular activities on offer, about rallying and getting the most out of the club.

To any other members that would like to join us, please do so. Come along and make the new members welcome.

RSVP to Jodi by Wed 19th July
auckland@vcc.org.nz
or 021 678 258

A most sincere welcome is extended to this month's new members. We hope to see you taking an active part in Branch activities whenever possible. Should you require any assistance or advice, please feel free to ask any Committee member?

Andrew Gourlay

Torbay

1955 Triumph Trophy

Peter Valler

Te Atatu

1951 Jowett Javelin
1937 Austin 12/4 New Ascot
1952 Jowett Bradford
1962 Hillman Husky

Nick Sturm

Pukekohe

1959 Chrysler Saratoga

Martin Rees

Whitford

1930 Ford Model A Sedan
1930 Ford Model A Tourer
1930 Ford Model A Commercial
1959 Porsche 356

Peter Naylor

Papakura

1977 BMW R100S

Sam Taunton

Parau

1981 Mitsubishi Jeep
1944 Willys Jeep



Many thanks to new member Matt Ensor, CEO and founder of FranklyAI who spoke at May's club night giving his insight on the hot topic of the moment Artificial Intelligence. As with all new inventions there are pros and cons and the development of science and technology is moving faster and faster and we were astonished at the speed it is now moving and what it can do. The good crowd of members and wives were treated to some fascinating demonstrations and given much food for thought. Supper was equally modern and scientific – somewhat Heston Blumenthal-esque you might say and very deliciousthanks Jodi.



Next month is June - AGM month - this is to be held on Saturday 24th June at 2:30pm. But before I see you there, come along to club night on Thursday 8th. The Clubrooms are open from 7.30pm. Bar is open and a supper is served. We as members need to discuss the feedback on the governance part of the constitution – in layman's terms, the make up of the executive committee under the new up-coming laws for incorporated societies. There are at present 3 options – **We need your input**. Look forward to seeing you.

Russel

From Jodi:

For those that missed out on the AI talk, here's a little taste, a demonstration of the power of writing with AI. Matt used an app known as GPT-4 in which he typed in this instruction:

"Can you write me an editorial for the Auckland vintage car club magazine for June 2023, can you mention how great chevs are, talk about the importance of drainage, make up a few jokes about Fords and Model As, and do this in a very friendly style, and include a quote from Gandi, and ask for help at the next working bee. Make this 400 words or less"

Within seconds there was a great editorial written that then was converted into a rhyming poem as well as a submission to Chris Hipkins to fund our working bee. To view those results I have attached the full transcript in the email that delivered this Bulletin, you can go and read, quite phenomenal!

Matt also wrote a review of the evening with us on LinkedIn, you can read that here: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/mattensor_get-ready-for-generative-ai-in-almost-everything-activity-7067605275892977664-ZJet

The Experts Rally attracted its usual average number of entrants over the latter years, of ten. Lately members have become more and more anxious and nervous about participating in an Experts run. Personally we feel this is a great shame as in theory a good plotter endeavours to plot a run that everyone can get around, involving a few tricks which you may pick up and if not still motor on completely unaware until discussions at the end. You have the pleasure of taking your treasured vehicle out for a run, kept your mind active, patted yourself on the back at achieving and having a good laugh or congratulating the plotter for their cleverness and finally enjoying the camaraderie of fellow members.

We have plotted our fair share of Experts runs over the years and have indeed lessened our work load plotting-wise as the effort for the numbers is just not worth it. This year we again assured members that anyone could get around this run and it was to travel over roads lesser traveled by the Auckland club. We were therefore delighted to hear the cry of joy from a certain car at the final check that they had got around no problem and had thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Satisfaction from both parties.

The rally itself started out west at Royal Reserve, headed around Whenuapai (goodness gracious how the growth in housing is just everywhere), used a keep left instruction which just seemed to go on forever, headed over the Greenhithe bridge and along the Upper Harbour Drive which used to be the main road north for many, not all that long ago, then into the East Coast Bays of the North Shore, having to reroute the scenic route to Long Bay via Glenvar Road due to many roads in that area being still closed after the weather events earlier in the year, a short straight line through Long Bay (ditto our comment above re housing) then back to Rosedale which was the busiest we had seen it, for a welcome coffee, some lunch and lots of chat and laughter.

Many thanks to all those who participated, we really appreciate your support. Congratulations to Rodger and Val Ball on the win. And a further big thanks to Alan and Shaaran Price and also Geoff and Anne McGregor for marshaling.

Russel and Jocelyn McAlpine

In honour of Alan Roberts, former Chairman and AVVCC stalwart, who passed away on 19th May, the first Silent Check for the rally was Velie. A nod to his much loved car.



VETERAN NOTES

About sixteen people attended the May meeting. At the time David Oliver was still in hospital as was Barry Birchall, Barry is now home and I'm not sure about David, he will keep the Model T.

Barry Robert brought along a very large Kingston carburettor with a patent date of 1915. This created a bit of discussion.

Phil Henley made contact with a Lewis Miller in the USA who has a Mitchell museum who seems to have the remains of a 1913 Mitchell the same as Phil's.

Denis Lowe spoke of the Ellerslie concours, apparently five veterans were present. He also brought the very early differential he bought at the clubrooms, he had thought it might fit the 1903 Curved Dash Oldsmobile, but it doesn't, and no one else could identify it.

Roy Sharman brought a 1906 Unic spare parts list and info about the 2004 London to Brighton Run.

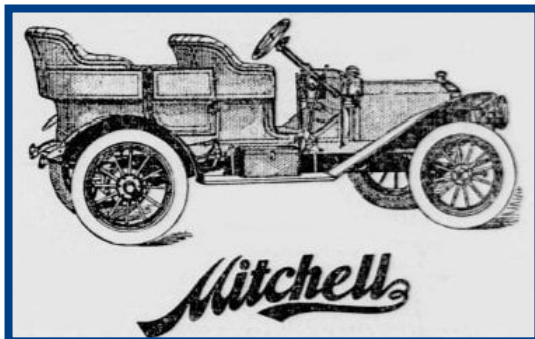
Gavin Welch has got a Jumbo Underdrive which he bought in the USA some years ago, this will go in his Model T to give him extra gears so he doesn't have to use low for long periods.

Most other people didn't have a lot to report.

For some time Alan Price had expressed a concern about a child, or adult child tampering with the charabanc handbrake while it was parked on display with no crew around. As a result Lachlan Rendall computer printed a stop in plastic, which was trialled with some success, a proper metal version will be made with minor modification and this should resolve the issue.

The library has acquired an early history of Sunbeam Service ex the late Dave Allbon and that's it for this month.

John



The recent 'Vintage Muster' was a highlight for many vintage buffs. Well plotted for both competitive and touring entrants, organisers are to be complimented on a very enjoyable rally over interesting rural roads.

Unfortunately, Don Green, on his beautifully presented 1930 Rudge motorcycle, was dismantled while executing a difficult gearchange on a steep twisty section. Don came along to our meeting to thank those who helped and explained what happened. He was relieved that his bike was not badly damaged.

Neville Holland did a trip around the Coromandel recently and his '29 Chev went well apart from a nasty shimmy in the rear suspension on the corrugated roads. A deformed rear spring and wear in the floating spring-to-axle housing blocks (torque tube set up) is suspected. He is also considering telescopic shock absorbers.

John Towers has just remade one of the front bucket seats for his Humber, as the wood had all but disintegrated. It came out so well that he is considering doing the other one, even though it is probably repairable. As mentioned last month, he has repainted the body, and the photos look most impressive. He also presented us with a curious device to try and identify. It was a dash mounted indicator that shows that the engine lubrication system is working. As the Humber runs at only a few lbs psi, a regular gauge is not required.

Tim Gray is restoring Model T coils, but is running out of pitch to seal them. Suggestions were made as to where he might acquire some.

Richard Green has decided that while his Rolls-Royce motor is stripped down, he will fully recondition it, including all the white metal shell bearings. Unfortunately, the UK supplier of these has recently gone into liquidation, and their stock is untraceable, so Richard is having to look at other options.

Ross Bellamy has recently reconditioned the Model A steering box with a new worm, but there is a tight spot requiring further investigation.

Norm Dewhurst completed the 'Muster' in the Essex, but only just, owing to a badly slipping clutch. The gearbox is out, and the clutch plate is now lined with a more modern fabric instead of cork, and will be run dry, instead of in oil. Good luck Norm.

Murray & Penny Firth



MOTORCYCLE NOTES

Saturday 13th May, we arrived at the clubrooms just as our guest speaker was arriving. We had kiwi legend, 98 year old, Les Harris joining us. Les is now confirmed as the oldest competing motorcycle racer in the world by the Guinness Book of Records.

Les was supported by his family, son Tim and Tim's wife Pauline plus Tim's two daughters Olivia and Rebecca. On display was Les' hill climb 175 BSA Bantam at the front of the room.

The members started arriving around 2 pm, there were three sidecar outfits parked up, Martyn Seay's 1928 Indian Scout, new member Peter Naylor with his Triumph T120 and Tony Kay with his Harris Triumph, there were also around 10 solo's, including a Panther, 1000 Honda CBX, two Velocettes, Triumphs, Nortons, a Yamaha and a Matchless.

The meeting started at 2.30pm, with around 55 in attendance. Martin told a joke to start the meeting. We had two new members Rory Burdon and Peter Naylor. Mike Grieg brought along a friend who is a Ulysses member.

REPORTS

Martin told us about the April club night, the speakers were members Peter Alderdice and Jodi Tomlin who told us about the recent trip down to the National Motorcycle Rally and the Burt Munro Festival by a large group of our members. He then told us about the April bike run that went to visit new member Brett Baillie's motorcycle collection, Brett and his family looked after us very well.

COMING UP

The Northland Motorcycle Rally. The New Zealand Motorcycle Show. And a Fish n Chip run to Kaiaua. See reports elsewhere in this bulletin.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Peter Alderdice spoke about the next national motor cycle rally which will be based in Palmerston North in February 2025.

Martin and Don Green spoke about our Auckland Motorcycle Rally in November.

GUEST SPEAKER - Les Harris

Born in 1925 on the family farm in Te Awamutu, in his childhood years he found he was dyslexic which he overcame by teaching himself to read and write. He was often ill, until it was found out that he was allergic to dairy products, so once he stopped having these products his health improved greatly, Les says he thinks this is why he is now still fit and active at 98.

He told us about his life down on the farm, and about his cars and motorcycles that he owned. It started with Ford model T's then Austin Seven's, a 1937 MG fitted with a 6 cylinder Wolseley engine, he then had a 1937 BSA sports car. His first bike was a 1926 New Imperial, and then a 350 BSA special, then there was a Harley Pea shooter, followed by a Harley V twin and sidecar. He worked in the local freezing works.

He then bought a 1938 Triumph single that he started grass track racing on and also hill climbs.

In the early 50's he started road racing, for this he bought a new BSA 350 Gold Star a great bike he said. He raced at Ohakea, New Plymouth, and Whanganui against Rod Coleman. He says that he also enjoyed racing at the Paeroa street races. His last race was at Marton.

He then met his first wife and they had 7 children. And so the family became his priority for the next few decades.

In 1984 he was attracted back to motorcycle racing after finding out about the Classic Motorcycle Racing Register. He joined the Waitemata branch of the VCC. He then bought a BSA Bantam, stripped the engine down, and tuned the engine, which then could do around 90 mph on the Pukekohe back straight, he also started competing in the various hill climbs around NZ. Les was often the motorcycle class winner at these events, and some times he even beat the cars.

At the very last Pukekohe classic motorcycle festival this year Les was competing on his Bantam, and also riding Les's two other Bantams were his 21 year old granddaughter Olivia and his son Rod who used to be a production rider for Yamaha in the 70s and 80s.

The whole family from Whangarei and Wellington were at the track supporting Les. A film company were also making a documentary on Les due to the fact that he was the oldest competing motorcycle racer in the world.

And just recently Les was competing at the Manunui coastal hill climb. This Waitemata VCC event was filmed by Bill Hohepa for Bill's "Face TV" show "Dads old car " at the end of the racing Bill did an interview with Les.

When you meet and chat to Les, a Kiwi legend, it's hard to believe that he's 98 years old, he is a true gentleman. His parting words were that he's looking forward to getting his letter from King Charles commemorating turning 100.

Martin thanked Les and his family for coming to talk to us.

Martin Spicer & Jack Clark



Les and supporting family.

MID-WEEK TOURERS

Two weeks ago the Mid-weekers had two runs, virtually combined. The first a run to Kaihere School (a roll of 32 and 3 teaching staff, eat your heart out all you Auckland parents) via Taniwha and Matahuru Road. 14 cars including the Gardners Ford A, Roy Sharman Wolseley, Neil Bieleski, the Redgwells Mercedes, and the Stowers MGB. Add to that those who ventured further to do the **Overnight Tour to Okoroire**, namely the Begbies Mercedes, the Howarths Peugeot, the Nazers Jaguar, the Hulses Ford A, the Hesselings Triumph TR, the Firths Riley RMB, the Dewdrops Triumph, Mike Loosemore Austin 12/4, (the oldest car) and Harvey Brewer Ford Ten. (His 10 horses performed well.) Brian and Kay Hosking had entered but non starters due to Brian's medical treatment. Good cheer germs to you Brian.

Overall a great time, good weather, good hosts at the School and at the Hotel, good motoring with no hitches, and best of all, good companions. Many interesting places to visit, especially on our free day and Vintage collections and Restoration workshops during our motoring. The School (the pupils there loved us visiting) and a Waikato member benefitted with Koha collected from our people, and of course the Hotel and other local concerns did well. Particularly any Op Shops. Surely this was Vintage motoring at it's best. The "green centre line" portions of the route were driven by everyone and well received (there were alternatives provided but no one used them). Unfortunately cyclone Gabrielle damage prevented some of the original pioneering route being used.

The MAD HATTER theme was well supported with some wonderful creations, Mike Loosemore won the men's section complete with butterflies, spiders, and jewels. Sherrill Hulse won the ladies with a great creation and some Dame Edna glasses, thanks to everyone for joining in. Special thanks to our independent judge and compere, Francis from the Hotel staff.

Coming events

- June** As already well publicised, Jack is away overseas and in the absence of anyone being available to help, there is **no Mid-week** run in June.
- July** Yes, there will be a run starting from the usual Drury service centre on the southern motorway. May be the second Wednesday in order to be in the School Holidays and we'll try for a destination to suit. Watch the regular "The Week Ahead" email for more details.
- August** Wait and see. The Branch AGM will be over by then, will we see any new interest in helping with these very popular outings ? Or the many other positions to be filled in our Club? Make sure you are there to have your say!

Your Mid-week Team



This month we gratefully acknowledge receipt of a box of motoring books and miscellaneous publications from Leigh Shaw. Several were not in our current collection and we are glad to have them.

This month we received a shiny new EPSOM multi-function Printer/Copier/Scanner which handles sizes up to A3. For the first time we are able to offer **colour** copying up to A3 of material held by the library. It was installed by the club's resident IT guru Jodi. Much appreciated! This is an important facility as there are a number of books and manuals that are too valuable or fragile to be loaned out to members. There is no charge for small quantities of a couple of pages.

Recently while tidying up the Technical Manuals section, which was somewhat jumbled after the recent return of the books to the shelves, a rare copy of an instruction manual for a "REGAL 4-Thirtytwo - Model J" Motor car was unearthed. None of the team members had heard of this make and were even more puzzled how such a relatively obscure Veteran American car had made it to New Zealand, so some research was undertaken consulting our comprehensive collection of Encyclopaedia*. It turns out that although a relatively minor manufacturer based in Detroit which began building cars in 1907, they became one of the leading US exporters, with an active agent in England. Could the car from which this manual came from, have been purchased in the UK and later brought to New Zealand after the war? The model J was unfortunately the last version to be produced as the company ran out of cash due to inevitable shortages of materials caused by WWI, and was liquidated in 1918.

Does anyone know anything about this car – presumably it was once in Auckland as the manual has made it to our library, at some time in the past?

*Referenced in our copy of "Standard Catalog of American Cars 1805-1942" by Beverly Rae Kimes

The Library Team



APRIL MOTORCYCLE RUN

Saturday dawned chilly and overcast with misty rain on the hills. I headed off to the Jolly Farmer in Drury, collecting Malcolm Brown on the way, for the start of the April motorcycle run.

By 11am we had 30 motorcycles and 4 cars ready to depart. Instructions were handed out and I told the usual joke to send them on their way. I then phoned member Brett Baillie, who was hosting us at his home to view his great motorcycle collection, I let him know that there was going to be around 40 members coming, to which he said "Wow, I'd better bake some more scones!"

We travelled via Sutton Rd, then the great riding road Ponga Rd, onto Hunua Rd then John Hill Rd. Continuing onto Sky High Rd, Monument Rd, through Clevedon Village, up Twilight Rd, Whitford Park Rd, and through Whitford ending at Brett's home.

The riders were lucky as there was only a few spits of rain going there, this wasn't a problem for Ron Gill in his very nice 1990's Jaguar, Leo Fowler was in his Bug-Eyed Healey Sprite. Leo became Brian King's rescuer when Brian's 1939 BSA and sidecar blew its head gasket on Ponga Rd, they parked the outfit and came to the finish in the Sprite.

I was thanked by the riders for a very good country ride with very little traffic. Brett and his family put on a very nice light lunch for us. We spent the next hour looking over Brett's bike collection, there were Triumphs, Norton's, BSA, Velo, Panther, Ariel, Vincent and Kawasaki. At the end of the visit we thanked Brett for letting us see his bikes.

Peter Alderdice kindly went home and collected his trailer and took Brian King back to collect the BSA and take it back to Brian's home in Maraetai.

I dropped off Malcolm at Bombay, and headed back home to Pokeno. And so ended another great motorcycling day. Thank you once again to Brett for hosting us all.

Martin



2023 NEW ZEALAND MOTORCYCLE SHOW

Friday 19th May I loaded my 1957 BSA Bantam D3 onto the 3 bike trailer, and then headed up to Waiau Pa to pick up branch member Phil Smith's WW2 BSA M20 Army bike. From there I made my way onto the motorway and headed up to the Trust Stadium Henderson for the New Zealand motorcycle show.

On arrival at 2pm, the place was alive with people setting up their bikes, stands and shops. Already on our branch stand was Jack Clark and David Broadhead with their bikes. Our club bikes were lined up in two rows. Show organiser Graham Viall then came over and said we could expand our area, so we rearranged the bikes into a large square, with four rows of bikes, all up we had 25 on display (last year we had 35 bikes). Since the shows beginnings, when it was held in Manukau city, then at ASB Showgrounds Green Lane, our branch has always had the largest number of bikes on display at the shows. Sadly this year we had to compete with the Northland Motorcycle Rally, the Green Lane Boat Show, and the Distinguish Gentleman's Motorcycle Ride. It was a real shame to have so many events all on in one weekend.

Chairman Shaaran Price, husband Alan and son Shane arrived at 5pm to put their 1914 Douglas and 1937 Sun motorcycles on our stand. We all left the stadium at 6pm, Shaaran and Alan were putting me up for the weekend, so I didn't have to go back and fourth to Pokeno.

We woke to a wet and windy day. I was at the stadium by 9.30am ready for the show to open at 10am. The public then came streaming in. As well as our club there was the BSA, NORTON, VINCENT, JAPANESE and ITALIAN clubs.

The Classic Motorcycle Racing Register had some great race bikes plus the brilliant Britten on display. New bike dealers were, Royal Enfield, Benelli and Harley Davidson. There was a good display of speedway bikes by Colin Tucker.

Ken Macintosh had line up of replica's of the Rodger Freeth Macintosh Suzuki, plus the original one was there too. There were motorcycle clothing and helmet dealers, a large collection of customised Harley's and a very large wooden bike powered by a Lister engine.

There was a very good paint company that had a selection of customers petrol tanks and side of panels on display. At the Bike Trans stand was four times motorcycle world champion Hugh Anderson plus our recent motorcycle meeting guest speaker Les Harris the oldest competing motorcycle racer in the world at "98" I took a great photo of the pair who were seen chatting for a long time.

Outside in the car park the crowds were entertained by a team of bike stunt riders weather permitting. We left the show at 5pm.

The weather in the North Island this Saturday was terrible, with gale force winds and

heavy rain, this certainly kept the numbers attending the show down.

Sunday was a bit better weather wise, which brought in more spectators.

I spoke to a number of people who wanted to join our club. Around lunch time a few of our members who were returning from the Northland bike rally came in for a look around.

The quality and finish of the motorcycles on display at the show was fantastic, they ranged from veteran's through to new models. Now if money is not a problem you could buy a 200 + BHP V4 two stroke track bike for \$300,000.

The organisers were disappointed that none of the top Japanese manufacturers came along. The organisers said the weather really cut the paying public numbers down from last years good turn out. The Rotary club charities will still get a pay out but not as big as in the past sadly.

The show ended with the prize giving around 4pm. We packed up the stand and loaded the bikes onto the trailer, luckily it stayed dry. And so ended another Papakura Rotary club NZ motorcycle show.

I was just about to leave the stadium when one of our members stopped me and asked could I put his Triumph TR6 on my trailer as his battery had gone flat while the bike was on our stand, stopping him riding home to Royal Oak. So off came the Bantam, on went the TR6 and then the Bantam went back on. I dropped them off in Royal Oak and carried on to Pokeno getting home at 7pm, just in time for a roast dinner.

Martin Spicer



Les Harris and High Anderson having a chat...



2023 NORTHLAND MOTORCYCLE RALLY

Another good day's riding in the north of our beautiful country. A number of Aucklanders participated in this year's Northland Motorcycle Rally and managed to win a couple of placings along the way.

The Rally took us south and then east of the Whangarei clubrooms into Maungatapere, Kokopu, Ruatangata and back to the Mangakahia Sports Club for our lunch stop, traveling just on 50 miles. After lunch we would ride another 30 miles back to the clubrooms via a very interesting stop at the home of Brian. Brian is a light aircraft enthusiast and has a rather large "shed" in which he houses 2 planes (plus a microlight hanging from the rafters). He can start the planes up, taxi out the shed, up the drive and down the airstrip. It's one of those downhill strips. Glad he knows what he is doing, I'd be shaking in my boots!

Saturday evening the prizegiving dinner was at the clubrooms, the meal was provided by a local school, feedback was that they should be kept on as caterers in the future!

The Auckland placings were as follows:

Vintage	1st	Peter Alderdice	1924 Harley Davidson
	2nd	Paul & Jodi Tomlin	1925 Harley Davidson
Post Vintage	1st	Gavin Welch	1942 Harley Davidson
	2nd	Dave Williams	1937 Harley Davidson
	3rd	Rory King	1942 Harley Davidson
Post War Vintage	3rd	Gary Mitchell	1956 Velocette
P80 Vintage	1st	Michael Watts	1987 Honda GB500
	3rd	Allan Cole & Heather Hartles	1980 Honda Goldwing

Our thanks to Peter Lovatt and the whole Northland Branch team for another awesome rally!

Jodi
P.S. Go Harley Davidson! 😊



Positive ground depends on proper circuit functioning, which is the transmission of negative ions by retention of the visible spectral manifestation known as “smoke”. Smoke is the thing that makes electrical circuits work. We know this to be true because every time one lets the smoke out of an electrical circuit, it stops working.

This has been verified repeatedly through empirical testing. For example, if one places a copper bar across the terminals of a battery, prodigious quantities of smoke are liberated, and the battery shortly ceases to function. In addition, if one observes smoke escaping from an electrical component such as a Lucas voltage regulator, it will also be observed that the component no longer functions.

The logic is elementary and inescapable! The function of the wiring harness is to conduct the smoke from one device to another. When the wiring springs a leak and lets all the smoke out of the system, nothing works afterwards. Starter motors were considered unsuitable for British motorcycles for some time largely because they consumed large quantities of smoke, requiring very unsightly large wires.

It has been reported that Lucas electrical components are possibly more prone to electrical leakage than their Bosch, Japanese or American counterparts. Experts point out that this is because Lucas is British, and all things British leak. British engines leak oil, British shock absorbers, hydraulic forks and disk brake systems leak fluid, British tires leak air and British Intelligence leaks national defense secrets.

Therefore, it follows that British electrical systems must leak smoke. Once again, the logic is clear and inescapable. In conclusion, the basic concept of transmission of electrical energy in the form of smoke provides a logical explanation of the mysteries of electrical components—especially British units manufactured by Lucas.

And remember: “A gentleman does not motor about after dark.” Joseph Lucas (1842-1903).



Author unknown.

☺☺☺

THANK YOU
to Peter Alderdice for submitting
this fun little non-sense for us to enjoy.

SPARES DEPT.

A very big thank you to Leo Fowler who has load tested all of the ignition coils that we have in stock. Even though stocks are limited they are at bargain prices: 12 volt @ \$5 each & 6 volt @ \$10 each.

This is a true story: Norm and Pat Dewhirst were heading south in Dolly when almost at Waiouru this great little car decide to stop. A walk to the local garage to seek help resulted in the tow truck bringing Dolly back to the workshop to get sorted. As time passed without any solution and with a ferry to catch Norm was able to hire a rental. As for Dolly it was the AA that came to the party and covered the \$1,200 cost of a ride home. When back home some time later Norm got into the job of reviving Dolly and found she was without any spark. He then decided to try a jury rig of another condenser. Low and behold Dolly sprang into life. Now in the glove box is that cheap insurance (a spare new condenser).

We have a comprehensive stock of new condensers, contact sets, rotors, & caps far greater than we can accurately catalogue. The simple way is for our club members is to remove their distributor cap and rotor and photograph the condenser & contact set. We are selling this insurance as this month's special: \$10 buys a condenser, and as a bonus we will throw in at no cost a contact set & rotor.

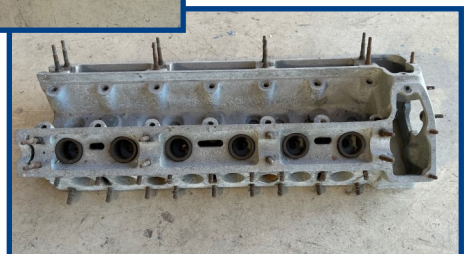
Just think about it if the coil or points are failing the spark simply gets weaker, but the condenser will either work or it will not. Then there is Murphy's Law you can bet the time the condenser quits it will be in the middle of nowhere and out of cellphone range.

New: Rover 2000 Clutch Plate - we have 2 only @ \$20 each

New: Jaguar 4.2 litre bare cylinder head - \$100.

15" BMW wheel trims, no scratches or scrapes (missing centre badge) \$50 for the pair.

Your Spares Team



For sale - 1929 Plymouth with Silverdome motor.
 Unrestored original car, as far as I can tell. Right-hand drive and runs very well. Does not burn oil, or seem to use any. Includes a wide range of spare parts, including timber spoked wheels. Reason for selling is health, also is in covered storage which is at a shortage. Registration is on hold. Last registered in 2018.
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PO Box 12 138, Penrose, Auckland 1642

4th Thursday of the month

2nd & 4th Thursday 7:30-10:00pm, Every Saturday 4:30-6:30 pm

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Barry Robert

Norm Dewhurst QSM

METROPOLITAN RENTALS



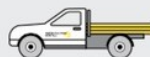
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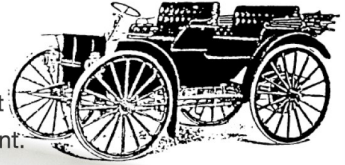
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