



# AUCKLAND VETERAN & VINTAGE CAR CLUB INC.



*The Bulletin*

July 2023



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August Bulletin submissions closing date: **Strictly 25 July 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 [avvcceditor@gmail.com](mailto:avvcceditor@gmail.com).

# Coming Events

*All events are held at our clubrooms unless otherwise specified.*

## JULY

1st	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
1-2		Winter Woollies Wander - hosted by Wellsford Branch	
9th	Sun	<b>Motorcycle Run to Kaiaua</b> - starts Jolly Farmer, Great Sth Rd, Drury	11:00am
9th	Sun	Central North Island Swap Meet - hosted by Rotorua Branch	7am-2pm
12th	Wed	<b>Mid-week Tourer's Run</b> —starts Service Centre, Southern Motorway, Drury	10:00am
13th	Thur	Noggin & Natter - Budgets & Subscriptions Discussion	7:30pm
15th	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting - Topic: The National Motorcycle Rally trip to Invercargill	2:30pm
22nd	Sat	<b>Meet'n'Greet for New Members</b> - refer details on page 10	2:30pm
23rd	Sun	<b>Ladies Lunch</b> - 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	<b>Club Run - Ladies Run</b> - starts King's Plant Barn, Airfield Rd, Takanini	1:00pm

## AUGUST

5th	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
6th	Sun	<b>Motorcycle Run</b> - starts Jolly Farmer Carpark, Gt South Rd, Drury	11:00am
10th	Thur	Noggin & Natter	7:30pm
12-13		National AGM - hosted by Nelson Branch	
16th	Wed	<b>Mid-week Tourer's Run</b> - start The Warehouse carpark, old Westgate	10:00am
19th	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting	2:30pm
19th	Sat	<b>Quiz Night - "Believe it or Not"</b>	7:30pm
20th	Sun	<b>National Daffodil Rally</b> - refer page 11	
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	
29th	Tue	Committee Meeting	7:30pm

## SEPTEMBER

2	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
9	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting	2:30pm
14	Thur	Noggin & Natter	7:30pm
15-16		Rubber Duckie Motorcycle Rally - hosted by Taranaki Branch	
20	Wed	<b>Mid-week Tourer's Run</b>	
23	Sat	Vintage Meeting	2:30pm
24	Sun	<b>Post Era Rally</b> (formerly PV, PWV, P60 & P80V Rally) Entry form on email.	
26	Tue	Committee Meeting	7:30pm
27	Wed	Charabanc Maintenance Night	8:00pm
28	Thur	Club Night	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.

# Chairman's Report

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Whilst we had a good turnout of members attending our AGM this year, it was disappointing that we did not get any new blood to join the committee. We are running a committee with members who have already done two terms, or more, prior to this. So please people, do have a think about this. Your club cannot continue to run this way forever.



There have been a few changes of positions this time:

- Jodi Tomlin is now the Secretary along with Bulletin Editor and Web Master.
- Tracey Winterbottom has stood down from Secretary and is taking on the Club Captain roll.
- Ian Hubbard returns as Treasurer.
- Glenn Morris is now Vice Chairman and carries on with Continuous Membership Awards Steward.
- Committee Members for this year are: Jeremy Lambert, Russel McAlpine, Martin Spicer, Lynda Spicer.

We farewelled Don Green and John Morrison. Their contribution over the years has been much appreciated. Harvey Brewer will not be continuing on the committee but will remain part of the Spares Team. Thank you guys.

I also must thank Lynda Spicer, along with the Club Captain position, has done a mammoth job during, and following, the flood disasters. Lynda took on the job of dealing with the insurance company and the reinstatement firm and deserves high praise for the great job she did.

Recently Russel, our maintenance man and his "band of merry men", Rory King, Colin Shoebridge, Paul Hesselting, and Paul Tomlin took on the job of taking out the window bars and cleaning them up, painting them along with the window frames ready for the installation of blinds and curtains. Thank you guys.

The blinds and curtains are now in and have certainly brightened up the clubrooms.

Next on the work plan is the installation of an Archgola over the deck.

Today, Sunday, Alan and I attended the first club run we have been on for two years due to flood damaged vehicles and cleanup. Although we were in a 'modern', it was great to be out and about again.

Do come and join us at the clubrooms and on events. A lot of time is spent organising outings and club nights for you all to enjoy.

Shaaran

## Outgoing Secretary's Notes

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Last month we had some great discussion on the draft proposal for changes to how we manage the club at a national level. Thank you to those who attended.

Everything is very much still in draft so there is plenty of opportunity to put forward ideas. There will be further discussion at the August Executive meeting and AGM.

There are a number of clubs who currently think that the new Incorporated Societies Act does not necessarily mean we need to change the constitution. This is based on legal opinion they have obtained, whilst the legal advice obtained by the Management Committee was that change to our current structure is required.

We have also just had information in from the Management committee in regard to budgets and subscriptions for the coming year. It should be no surprise to anyone that the operating expenses for the club are under pressure and the budget approved in 2021 would have us operating with a substantial loss.

At club night on Thursday 13 July, we will be discussing the proposed options put forward to keep the budget on the right side of the ledger. We'll also take any further discussion on the constitution changes.

While I have personal views on all these matters that I'm happy to share, as Branch Delegate, I attend representing the **collective thoughts of you**, the Auckland Branch, so please read the information that Jodi will be sending out and attend on the 13<sup>th</sup> to voice your thoughts or drop me an email or give me a call.

These are my last notes as Secretary, at the AGM I stood down as Secretary and the reins are being very ably taken up by Jodi Tomlin. I believe it is important we get fresh ideas, new blood and don't stay too long in one place, and I'm looking forward to supporting Jodi as Secretary, she has so much enthusiasm and new thought to bring to the table.

Tracey

*Editor's Note: Tracey remains the elected Delegate for our branch.*

## Incumbent Secretary's Notes

---

Welcome to the 2023/24 year with your new AVVCC Committee. Seems we're all familiar with this rodeo... We've really just changed seats around the committee table except for Ian Hubbard, who has returned to the Treasurer's seat after a couple of years rest.

Congratulations goes to the winners of the Annual Awards handed out at the AGM on Saturday, they are:

Experts Trophy	R & V Ball	1930 Ford Model A
Ladies Trophy	J McAlpine & C Campbell	1962 Austin Healey Sprite
Pride of Ownership	B & K Hosking	Riley
Triers Cup	P & C Smith	1942 Willys MB
Partners Trophy	V & S Hulse	1928 Ford Model A
Points Trophy - Cars	R & V Ball	
Points Trophy - Motorcycles	Michael Watts	1950 AJS
Bill Shears Trophy	John Stokes	

There are a few events coming up this month that I'd like to remind you of. The Meet'n'Greet for our New Members is on Saturday 22nd. While the afternoon is for New Members to be welcomed to the branch, we encourage current members to also attend, to extend your welcome to these new members too. The afternoon is open to anyone available on the day.

Then the Ladies Lunch - as Tracey mentioned last month, "back in the day", there used to be a very active Ladies Section. We wanted to have a get together for those ladies. A time to have a good natter all while enjoying a lovely lunch. We invite ALL Ladies in the Branch to attend including those who may be past members (current members please invite them). Please let me know if you can join us as I need to know numbers for catering? Payment can be made direct to me in the clubrooms if you see me there or on the day.

I am also pleased to be able to help with the planning of the Daffodil Rally Fundraiser for our Branch, being held 20th August. See notes later in this Bulletin and further details as they are confirmed in "The Week Ahead" emails on Monday mornings.

As your new Secretary, please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions, I'll do my best to give you an answer or at least point you in the right direction. ☺

Thank you

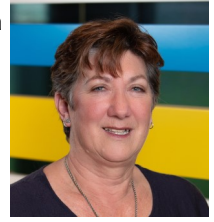
Jodi  
021 678 258  
auckland@vcc.org.nz



## Club Captain's Report

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Our July club run was organised by John Morrison and took us on a back road route from Universal Drive in Henderson to Whangaparaoa via Swanson, Helensville, and Kumeu.



Our destination was the workshop of well known racing personality and member Alan Woolf. Alan has a lot of racing memorabilia, plenty of photos and media that tell the story of his many exploits over a long career in motorsport, all the while bringing up a family and running a business. Alan and his wife Colleen were wonderful hosts and those who attended enjoyed viewing Alan's extensive collection of vehicles, from my favourite, a lovely little Singer 9 through to single seater racers, genuine Lotus Cortina, Mini, Triumph Vitesse, a Daimler Dart and a beautiful Jaguar XK120.

I am looking forward to taking on the role of Club Captain this year, if you have any suggestions of venues to visit please let me know?

I'd like to take the opportunity to say a massive THANK YOU to Lynda Spicer. Lynda has stepped down from this role after 5 years and has spent countless hours and miles organising runs. Big shoes to fill!

This month will be the Ladies Run (yes we have moved the date for this year) plotted by Jocelyn McAlpine and helpers. Plotted by the ladies but open, as always, to everyone to attend. August will be the Daffodil Rally, note this is Sunday August 20 a week earlier than usual. This is a National Day where all branches around the country put on an event to showcase the club and what we are about as well as raise money for the NZ Cancer Society. I hope as many of you as possible support us on the day, watch for more details in the coming weeks.

See you out and about.

Tracey

## Vintage Muster Results

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*Our apologies for the oversight of not publishing the results from this rally earlier.*

### Overall winners Rodger & Val Ball

	<b>Slow Class</b>	<b>Fast Class</b>
1st	Bill & Sherrill Hulse	Rodger & Val Ball
2nd	John Morrison	Russel & Jocelyn McAlpine
3rd	John & Janice Gardiner	Glenn & Marion Morris

**CONGRATULATIONS** to you all!



**July Club Run**

**Sunday 30th July**

## **THE LADIES RALLY**

Plotted by the Ladies but **open for all** to enter

Starts at **Kings Plant Barn**

Airfield Rd, Takanini

Come early and enjoy lunch at the café  
"Friend of the Farmer"

**First car away 1pm**

Traveling as much as possible over rural  
Auckland roads, finishing in Mangere Bridge  
where you can enjoy a walk over the harbour walkway  
(cafes nearby or BYO thermos)

Enquiries to:  
Jocelyn McAlpine  
027 305 9472



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 a Sausage Sizzle & Nibbles

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 ALL 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

# Save the Date!

Our Club Run for August  
Supporting the National Daffodil Rally for Cancer

Start and Finish TBA

Please watch the "The Week ahead"  
emails for details as they come to hand.



# Daffodil Rally for Cancer

**SUNDAY 20 AUGUST 2023**

Up and down New Zealand our classic  
and vintage vehicles will be on the  
roads and on display...

To find out more about  
your local Daffodil Rally  
for Cancer, visit

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

**Everyone  
Welcome**  
No matter what  
kind of vehicle  
you drive.



## Petrol Pump Unveiling

---

After our recent AGM, we all went up to the barn and were treated to the unveiling of our newly restored Shell Petrol Bowser.

This bowser had come to us from early Auckland VCC member, Brian Walton.

Jack Nazer, along with many other members, had talked of restoring the petrol pump that had been here in the barn for many years.

Towards the end of last year I had a ring from Russel McAlpine saying I needed to call Steve Keys.

Steve told me that he would like to restore the bowser for us as he felt that it was time to give something back to our branch in return for the many happy years he and his parents, Les and Rose Keys, had enjoyed as members.

The restoration is magnificent. Steve, we say a very big **"thank you"**, for the time spent restoring the bowser that now stands proudly in our barn for all members to enjoy.

Shaaran Price.



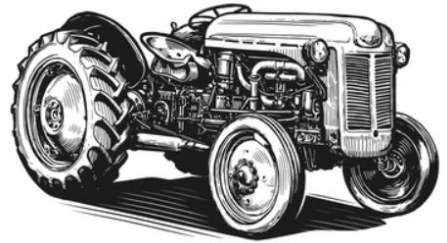
## Motorcycle Run to Kaiaua

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This run is open to **ALL members**! Martin has organised a run to beautiful Kaiaua on the Firth of Thames to view an amazing collection of Tractors. Enjoy a lovely day out.

Date: Sunday 9th July  
Start: The Jolly Farmer Carpark  
Great South Road  
Drury  
Time: Departing 11am

See you there!



### **WANTED**

Marshals and Helpers

to assist on the

### **Post Era Rally**

(formerly the PV, PWV, P60V & P80V Rally)

If you can help, please contact  
Debbie or Bob Ballantyne  
09 444 4066 or [deb.rob@xtra.co.nz](mailto:deb.rob@xtra.co.nz)

# Quiz Night

*Join us for a load of fun...*

**Saturday 19th August, 7:30pm**

## **Quiz Night** **Believe It or Not!**

Our Quizmaster is:

**Andrew Dewhurst**

**\$15 Entry Fee**

\$10 will be donated to Daffodil Rally Fundraiser.

Wear Yellow  
Supper Provided  
Door Prize

***Bring your change...***

Quick Fire Raffles

**Bar Open**

**Teams of up to 8 people.**

If you don't have a team you  
will be put in one on the night.

***Ticketed Event***

To book your tickets contact Tracey:  
[runnymede@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:runnymede@hotmail.co.nz)

# Ladies Lunch

*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?

## Veteran Notes

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The numbers were a little down at the June meeting, probably because of King's Birthday weekend?

We are informed that Waikato's Alan Sharp has been working on his 1915 Dodge seen at the National Veteran Run, he has also been to some Chrysler club events.

Matt Metcalfe has the Hudson roadster apart, he has the clutch back and functioning properly and hopes to make one good gearbox out of two, he has rectified some oil pressure issues and is working on a discreet electrification of the head lights. He also produced a sales brochure for a Hudson Model 33.

Gavin Welch has installed the UNDERDRIVE in his Model T, so he should now have four speed gears. I wish I could remember the principle of this mechanism.

Grant Stott didn't have much to say. I understand the 1918 Westcott is still on the market. Denis Lowe is researching the picture of his 1903 Oldsmobile when it was still on the wharf with Captain Subritsky seated in it.

Terry Jenkins brought an interesting Smiths speedo along, it was subsequently identified as coming out of an Austin 7 Chummy.

Tim Edney has his 1905 Darracq running he also has involvement with a Hanomag light truck which would be very unusual for this country.

David Lane was discussing a cyclecar diff which he described as very weak construction. He also described a recent HCCNZ event and is writing his memoirs using a computer programme called Grammerly.

So that's it for this month.  
John Stokes





## Vintage Notes

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In February 2024, the next National Vintage Rally is being held in the north of the South Island. That sounds like a long way off, but now is a good time to start planning and preparing for what will be a major celebration of Vintage cars, trucks and motorcycles. Penny and I are certainly looking forward to it. We will take our time getting there and back, avoiding major towns and main roads, and visiting places such as antique shops, gardens, lighthouses, little museums and sheds. While in the South Island we hope to spend time exploring all the sights that the top of the South has to offer. If this appeals to you, and you like the security and comradeship of travelling in a loose group, get in touch.

At our monthly meeting, Neil Bielecki has made and fitted a new carbon brush to the magneto of his Renault. It didn't go without incident, as the tiny piece of carbon, while being reduced in diameter to fit, jumped out of the chuck, and was very hard to find.

Richard Green has found an as new ammeter for his 1930 20/25 Rolls Royce. He is pleased with the find, but anything RR gets marked up considerably. The crankshaft journals are being skimmed and new white metal bearings fitted as, although there is not much wear, there is evidence of carbon particles embedded in the soft bearing metal.

John Towers has also had issues with magneto carbon brushes in his Humber. The little carbon brush jumped out of its proper place and hid within the magneto itself. Now who would look there? It was eventually found when the instrument was stripped right down.

John Stokes has a new acquisition - a 1937 Buick, nicely restored. We look forward to seeing it.

Owen Hayward is thinking of selling the Paige.

Ross Bellamy has rebuilt the steering box in the Model A, and should have it back in the car shortly.

Norm Dewhurst's grandson Ryan, is helping his grandfather work on the Essex, which is really appreciated, as Norm struggles to manhandle the gearbox. Norm is also researching options for improving the now very thin pressed steel brake drums, as they overheat very quickly.

Murray & Penny Firth

# Motorcycle Notes

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Lynda and I picked up Malcolm Brown at Bombay on our way up to the June motorcycle meeting, the weather was sunny and warm. We opened up the club rooms and got things ready for the meeting. The members started to arrive around 2pm. There was a good selection of 12 bikes parked out the back.

We had around 35 members attending.

**VISITOR** - Tony Burgess '1973 Triumph Bonneville' and Mike Greig.  
**NEW MEMBER** and today our guest speaker Peter Naylor.

**JOKE** Martin stood aside and let Mike Greig from the Waitemata Branch have a go, Mike said a prayer and sung words from the Janis Joplin song "Mercedes Benz" Mike had driven to the meeting in his 1991 Mercedes Benz 300, *very funny*.

## REPORTS

Martin told us about the recent Kaiaua Fish'n'Chip Run and the NZ motorcycle show that he manned over one weekend in May. Don Green reported on the North land Motorcycle Rally, and on the branch's Expert's Rally that he took part in, riding his Norton Commando.

Member Keith Ballagh told us about his 1951 350 MAC Velocette and the Velo Special he has recently built and put on the road. It is powered by a 1936 350 KSS engine, Keith made the nickel plated mono shock frame, it has Italian Ceriani forks and Morris mag wheels that came from Graeme Crosby, it has disk brakes and a 5 speed gearbox, it is painted a striking blue and yellow, a very different looking Velocette.

Martin told us about the branches upcoming AGM, and that a number of the committee will be standing down, one of these is Don Green who has been our Vice Chairman for a number of years, the members showed their appreciation to Don for his service to us.

Martin then asked for any nominations for the position of Motorcycle Coordinator to go onto the committee. Ian Hubbard nominated Martin for the position, which was then approved by the members present, Martin accepted and agreed to carry on with the position.

Jack Clark then reminded the members of the years that Martin has spent looking after the motorcycle section, Martin was then taken aback by the standing ovation he was given.

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**COMING UP: JULY RUN** - Sunday 9th - open to ALL members, a run to Kaiaua to view a Tractor Collection. We will start at the Jolly Farmer Carpark, Great Sth Rd, Drury at 11am. It will be a very interesting collection to view!

**AUGUST RUN** - Sunday 6th, starting at the Jolly Farmer Carpark, Drury at 11 am, a ride to member Steve Keys' home to visit his brilliant collection of vehicles.

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

New member Peter Naylor told us that his first motorcycle was a 197cc Norman which he rode to school, this was frowned upon as it was not a good image as far as the school was concerned. Later he bought a Triumph Speed Twin which became his transport to work, at Len Coulthard Motorcycles in Auckland, where he was doing his motorcycle mechanic apprenticeship.

He and fellow apprentices from other motorcycle firms test rode customers' bikes around the Mt Eden summit road, sometimes quite competitively! He eventually bought a BSA B31 scrambler and started competing.

A car and trailer was needed to get the bike to the meetings, so he bought a 1938 Chev Coupe, with the cost of running the BSA and the car on apprentice wages he was kept poor, instead of buying tyres he would get his old ones re-grooved so he could get a WOF, he sold the Chev to a mate and bought a Vanguard which was cheaper to run and proved to be a good car.

He then moved to Len Perry's to finish his apprenticeship. While at Perry's he made friends with Dave Tomkins and many fun moments were had. Peter struggled to be competitive racing the B31 against the modern CZs, Montesa's etc but was competitive against similar bikes.

He had the opportunity to race a special, this was a Matchless 500 engine fitted into a Greeves frame, he had some good results on this, coming third in the NZ non speedway grass track championship.

When he finished his apprenticeship he went down to the South Island on a working holiday, that's when he saw his first Bultaco racing, and fell in love with it. That was the bike to own he thought, he had a brief go at road racing and decided he'd kill himself if he continued. He was also a swinger on sidecars, both speedway and road racing.

Peter then went over to Australia and bought a new Bultaco Pursang, he did well on this bike and enjoyed his time in Australia. He returned home with the Bultaco, and did some more racing, he won the North Island 250cc Championship.

Around 1970 Peter got married and gave up his hobby of motorcycles. But then in 2008 he got the bug again and bought a 1986 Honda Shadow which he only used occasionally, later sold it and realised that was a mistake, his wife got tired of his moaning and they went to look at 2010 Honda Shadow and while he was road testing it she had told the owner, "we'll take it", she couldn't resist the lovely burgundy colour!

He then sold the Honda and bought a Harley Davidson Sportster, he still has this bike and several others including a recently purchased late model Triumph Bonneville with a Watsonian sidecar.

Peter then answered questions from the floor to end the meeting. Martin thanked Peter for telling us his story.

**Martin Spicer & Jack Clark**



*Clockwise from top left: 1967 Cemetery Circuit Wanganui; rear sidecar Rider Gary Caldwell - passenger - Peter Naylor (Auckland); Peter; Peter's Triumph T120 with Watsonian sidecar; the Sportster; Peter on Bultaco on right.*

# Mid-week Tourer's Report

---

No run last month, so not much to report on. Just a pity that no one put their hand up to help. Same at the AGM, no one seems interested in taking over this very satisfying role. For decades now, the mid-week runs have been among the most popular events, (even in other branches NZ wide) and it would be a shame to see them disappear from our calendar.

Our condolences to Maureen Tuetenburg and family on the passing of Brian. Brian was a long-time member, first on two wheels, graduating in later years to four, and he and Maureen were regular supporters of the Mid-week Tourers in or on whatever they were using at the time. Remember that great overnighter they arranged when we did the golf cart trip on the Forgotten Highway railway line? In recent years Brian's health prevented them from participation, but he was always interested in what was going on. We've missed him already, but he won't be forgotten.

## Coming events

### July **SECOND WEDNESDAY! In order to fall in the School holidays.**

Yes, there will be a run starting from the usual Drury Service Centre on the Southern Motorway. Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> at 10-00 am for a 10-30 am departure. Bring your grandies (or someone else's). Let them try an easy drive or an even easier navigation. Ryan Winterbottom has organised this short (one hour) run with about 90% rural roads finishing at the Howick Pioneer Village. BYO lunch or use the excellent on-site café. We will have our own private parking, and there's lots to see and learn. Watch the regular "The Week Ahead" email for more details.

**August** - Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> - Jack has organised this and he has given me the following details: Starting from The Warehouse Carpark in old Westgate. 10-00 am for a 10-30 am departure. BYO lunch. We are off on some of the "best in the West" rural roads to Silverdale to see the collection of Dave Tuke. This is an extra special opportunity that most definitely should not be missed. He has erected a high class, purpose-built building to house his 84 exhibits. Half are motorbikes, (there should be a good turnout by our bike boys) of mostly English manufacture, and half are 4 wheelers, being mostly American. There are a few original, one owner, hardly used exhibits, but most have been restored to a concourse condition and certainly have the "WOW" factor, sitting on the polished concrete floor. The entrance has a covered deck, set out like a café, so just bring your lunch. There should be enough chairs. Dave's caretaker, Steve Nightingale will be our host and knows the background of each and every vehicle. Make a note now!

Your Mid-week Team

## Library Notes

This month we gratefully acknowledge receipt of several books on Riley cars from noted Auckland RM Riley restorer James Welch. These were passed on to us by Barry Birchall who also included some of his own.

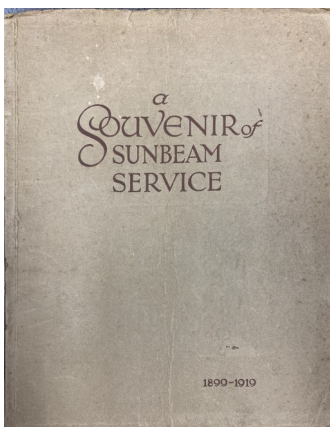
Our new EPSON multi-function Printer/Copier/Scanner which handles colour in sizes up to A3, has been busy providing members streamlined copying of manuals which can now be copied double-page.

During the on-going tidy up of the car technical manuals section a rather interesting early souvenir/promotion publication by the Sunbeam Motor Car Company Ltd fell out of a collection of pre-war Sunbeam service manuals. Titled "Twenty Years of Sunbeam Achievement in Peace and War" - published in 1919. We believe that it was donated by David Allbon. Curiously, it has a sale price of 10/6 (ten shillings and six pence) which seems rather high, when just for comparison the price of a 4-spanner set in a leather case from BSA Tools Ltd was just 5/- at that time. Flipping through the pages it seems even in those days manufacturers weren't adverse to minor exaggerations. It states the first Sunbeam car was produced in 1899. Other books on the history of this company in our library maintain that while several experimental cars were produced between 1899 and 1901 and tested on local roads in Wolverhampton, the first production car branded Sunbeam was delivered to customers in 1901.

It's a fascinating and valuable document recording many aspects of the company's early activities. Unfortunately, they lost their way and never recovered from the effects of the great depression and went into receivership in 1934. Although the marque survived another forty seven years in the form of badge engineering, no more Sunbeam cars were ever produced.

The publication has been moved into our rare books collection.

The Library Team



## New Members

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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?

**Trevor Marshall**  
*New Lynn*  
1939 BSA C10

**Andrew Wilson**  
*Wattle Downs*  
1964 Morris Moke

**Luke Nabarro**  
*Muriwai Beach*  
1964 VW Type 21

**Diane & Peter Coleman**  
*Maramarua*  
1960 Singer Gazelle

**Roger Bourne**  
*Mt Albert*  
1963 Fiat 500  
1968 Peugeot 404

**Stephen Boyle**  
*Western Springs*  
1977 Daimler Sovereign  
1987 Toyota Hiace

## Maintenance Report

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Here are the details of what has happened around the clubrooms over the last month:

### Completed work

- Painting of downstairs window frames and grilles.
- New blinds and curtains installed.
- Hedge trimmed

### Work underway

- Archgola ordered - on track to be installed in the second half of July.

### Planned work

- Weather permitting the concrete block wall at the end of the verandah will be painted (same colour as clubrooms)
- Will investigate paint to go over brown panelling in clubrooms.
- Sort out permanent wiring for the Shell petrol pump lighting.

If anyone can assist with any planned work, please let me know?

Russel 027 473 5451



# Daffodil Rally for Cancer

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST 2023



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# Mid-week Tourer's Tour

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## OUR TOUR TO OKOROIRE HOT SPRINGS AND DISTRICT 2023

*By Don Howarth*

### 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY WEDNESDAY

We started earlier than usual at 10am with a good sized tour group, more than half going only to the Kaihere School above Hauraki Plains on Highway 27. (This school has 32 pupils, years 1-8.) We travelled through by-roads of Ararimu, Paparimu, Mangatawhiri; through Coalfields Rd, past the open cast Bathurst Resources Mine, eventually reaching Highway 27.

We stopped at a café by Ngatea turnoff for coffee and takeaways, before returning to Highway 27 for Kaihere School, where we met Richard, the principal, who welcomed the group and spoke briefly about the school. We ate our lunch in a classroom which had been prepared for us, with plenty of chairs, hot water, tea and coffee. The 2 head girls welcomed us, told us a bit about the school and themselves. The school had recently celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary! After we had eaten, Norm offered rides in the vintage cars to the children, they enthusiastically accepted. They loved the big old Austin 12/4 tourer, TR6, MGB, old Wolsely, Model A and Jaguar XJ6 and much fun was had by all. It was great seeing the pleasure on all the faces, once they got used to NO SEATBELTS!

We departed at 1.30pm for Morrinsville via high hills, narrow one way gravel roads in parts, and arrived at our destination at 3.35pm. Richard Marshall's huge collection of mostly U.S. cars - Chevrolet, Cadillac, Chrysler, Ford T-birds, Triumph TR2 and TR4 and Stag, Daimler SP250 sports, Daimler 2.5 V8 saloon, Holden Monaro and Morris Minor convertible. We arrived at Okoroire about 5.15pm, checked in, had drinks and dinner and fell into bed.

### 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY THURSDAY

Today was a free day to do as we chose. With good friends Scott & Colleen Begbie in their Mercedes 280 SLC we left the hotel about 9.30am, and took a wrong turn, which took us to Tirau instead of Matamata. We quickly viewed the shopping area - very few antique shops and no book shops - so carried on to look for the Tirau Museum with a good apiary collection. However, on arrival at its run-down state, it appeared closed with no notices and no staff. There was nobody at all at the house or the Museum. Perhaps the elderly owner had passed away?

So we headed back to Matamata, to visit the Firth Tower Museum. We viewed the "old concrete Tower" which was surrounded by scaffolding, and while doing so, the receptionist/guide stopped to explain that an earthquake back in February had shaken the tower causing visible cracks in the concrete outer shell. She told us the concrete was 100 years old, reinforced with chicken wire mesh on a wooden frame, so was not as robust as it looked. They had invited a structural engineer to investigate and report. His report was imminent, and the outcome may be that the Tower is dangerous, which means removal will be necessary. We investigated the many other buildings containing farm machinery and tractor displays, Post Office, telephone exchange, schoolroom, and a typical country farmhouse etc. Altogether a very good museum, well presented, and good value for our \$5 each senior fee. We spent about 4 hours there!

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Next it was into Matamata for lunch, and to find a jeweler to replace the battery in Wynne's watch. Then back to Tirau to meet friends Colleen and Scott to visit the big SPCA op-shop where Wynne found a book by a favourite author, and I bought a shirt.

We all assembled for dinner, dressed in our finery and our Mad Hatter headwear, as we were to be judged for the best Mad Hat. We enjoyed a good dinner, and the staff were suitably impressed by our hat selections. The deserving winner was Mike Loosemore, the driver of the 1924 Austin 12/4 Clifton as chosen by the Maître d'. He had put much thought and effort into his "millinery creation" - it was enough to frighten small children with its bouncing black spider on his well decorated top hat! A good night was had by all.

### *19<sup>th</sup> MAY FRIDAY*

Prior to departing in our assorted vintage cars, we were asked by the hotel's new manager to line up the cars in front of the hotel, for a photo opportunity. Although it was raining steadily we lined up, took lots of photos, then took off for Putaruru. We went via Tirau, then on to Arapuni, where a big swing bridge over the Waikato River was a recommended stop. However it was raining hard when we reached the turn off, so we continued to Kihikihi, as did most of the touring group. The heavy rain eased as we arrived at our destination.

Our destination was David Nordelle's restoration workshop, specializing in Bugatti cars, with a worldwide reputation for the marque. David is also a Riley specialist and former President of the Riley Club. He had a Riley pre-selector gearbox on the bench, and explained some of the quirks to us. Member Murray Firth asked several questions and listened carefully to the answers... David showed off a customer's Bugatti Type 43 with the distinctive alloy wheels. The owner lived in Vanuatu and expected the car always to be ready for use, WOF and Rego up to date. He also encouraged David to use it to keep everything in order, so it was often seen at local car shows.

David normally kept 2 overseas owner cars on the property in NZ. I was deeply impressed by the quality of every part and fitting on this French classic eg machined gear lever and hand-brake lever, machining of engine block and head which are one unit, seats etc. I took many photos!! David explained he was in regular touch with owner's suppliers, Bugatti specialist engine builders, tyre makers etc and that it had become more expensive, and that deliveries took longer since Covid to source vital parts. Something that many of us can confirm. (I happen to be restoring an eligible Peugeot 205 CTi Cabrio, when I tried to source a top suspension strut repair kit, no usual UK supplier could help so I found a supplier in Germany, who would only supply to UK or the EU. I needed to use a relative in Sussex, UK to accept the part then repost it to me in Auckland. It took exactly 1 month at a cost of GBP22.20 or NZ \$45.00 for that post freight alone, more than the parts!)

David Nordell had a most impressively equipped workshop, had made many specialised Bugatti tools, had Riley and Chevrolet chassis and engines visible, so happily restored many different marques. New Zealand is so fortunate to have so many expert restorers dotted about the country in places like Pirongia, Kihikihi, Geraldine, Oamaru, Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland.

Departing David's workshop we travelled through Kihikihi village where I spotted Viands Bakery, a gourmet's delight if you like delicious pies. We stopped and bought some to take home, buying lunch as well, as the group had decided to stop at Pirongia for lunch.

We caught up with a much smaller group of tourers there as some had headed home directly from Okoroire, some had diverted to visit friends en route but the remaining tourers set off for the BP Bombay/Autobarn destination following Norm and Pat's very clear route directions, avoiding main roads and duly arrived about 4.45pm. We swapped stories over tasty coffees, enjoying the assembled company for a last time on this most interesting Autumn tour, a little wet weather on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> days did not dampen our spirits.



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# Your Committee & Officers

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## **Chairman**

Shaaran Price (Alan) Email: birdwoodprices@gmail.com H: 09 833 8575  
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## **Vice Chairman/Continuous Membership Awards Steward**

Glenn Morris (Marion) Email: glenn-maze@xtra.co.nz M: 021 136 5926

## **Secretary /Privacy Officer /Bulletin Editor /Web Master /New Member Liaison:**

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Editor Email: avcceditor@gmail.com

## **Treasurer:**

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## **Club Captain / Branch Delegate/Trophy Steward**

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## **Committee Members:**

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## **Non-Committee Positions:**

### **Library Team Leader**

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### **Spares Team Leader**

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### **Vintage Section Rep**

Murray Firth  
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## **Insurance**

Vero Consumer Insurance Specialist F: 0800 505 905 or B: 09 356 4501 Agency Number: 0300126

## **Clubrooms**

Street Address: 39 Fairfax Ave, Penrose  
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## **Phone: 09 579 5625**

**Branch Email Address:** auckland@vcc.org.nz **Branch Website:** www.avcc.org.nz

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## **Branch Honorary Life Members:**

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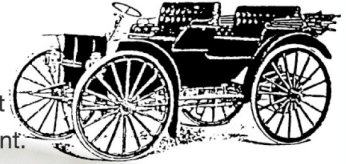
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