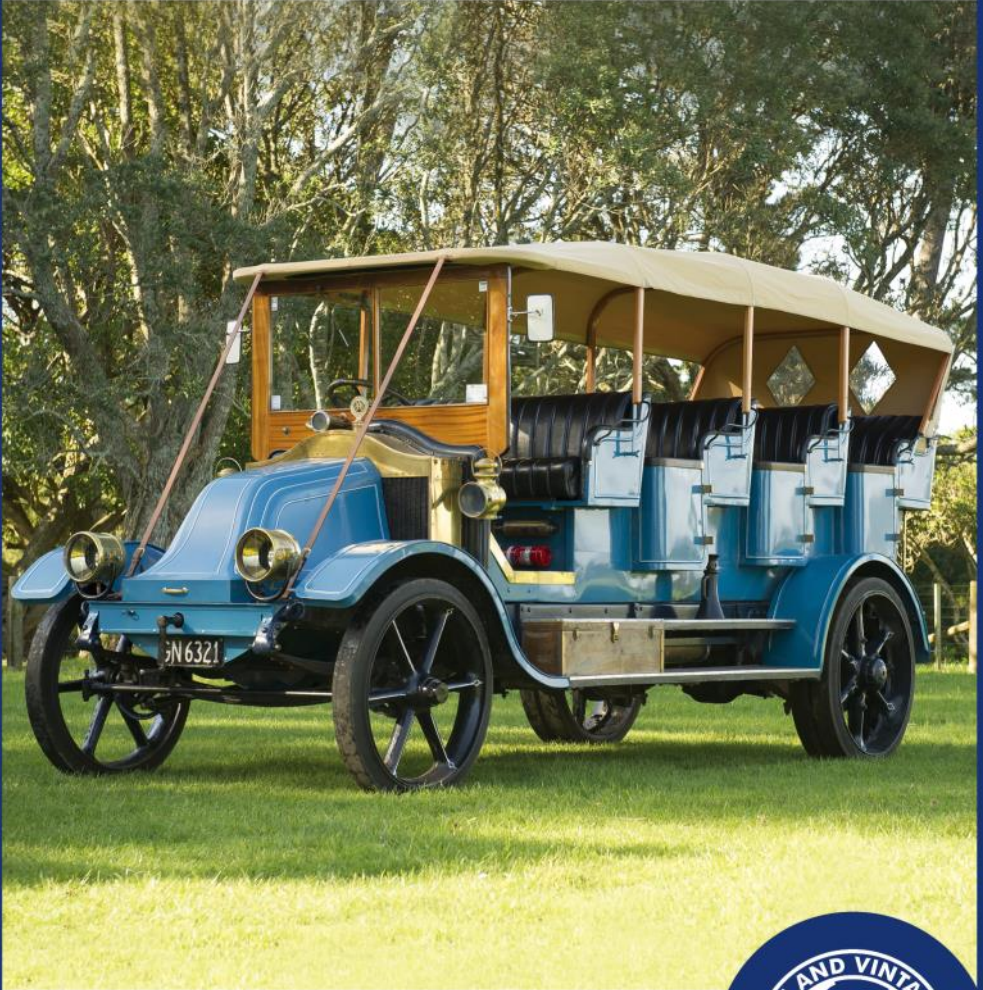




AUCKLAND VETERAN & VINTAGE CAR CLUB INC.



The Bulletin
MARCH 2023



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April Bulletin closing date

Strictly 25 March 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.

COMING EVENTS

MARCH

4	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
5	Sun	Brits & Euro Classic Car Show, Lloyd Elsmore Park, Pakuranga	10:00am-3:00pm
9	Thur	Noggin & Natter	7:30pm
11	Sat	25, 35, 50 & 60 Year Awards Afternoon	2:00pm
11-12		Kumeu A & P Show	
11-12		Irish Women's Rally hosted by South Waikato Branch	
15	Wed	Mid-week Tourer's Run - starts BP Service Centre, Highway 1, Drury	10:00am
18	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting	2:30pm
19	Sun	Waikato Vintage Venture	
23	Thur	Club Night - guest speaker Todd Niall	7:30pm
24-26		Maunga Moana Rally hosted by Taranaki Branch	
25	Sat	Vintage Meeting	2:30pm
28	Tue	Committee Meeting	7:30pm
29	Wed	Charabanc Maintenance Night	8:00pm

APRIL

1	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
1	Sat	Mooloo Meander hosted by Waikato Branch	
13	Thur	Entertainment Night	7:30pm
15	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting	EARLY START! 12 noon
19	Wed	Mid-week Tourer's Run—starts Warehouse Carpark, Old Westgate	10:00am
21-23		Highland Fling hosted by Bay of Plenty Branch	
22	Sat	Vintage Meeting	2:30pm
25	Tue	Committee Meeting	7:30pm
26	Wed	Charabanc Maintenance Night	8:00pm
27	Thur	Club Night - Review of the National Motorcycle Rally	7:30pm
30	Sun	Vintage Muster - starts Jolly Farmer Carpark, Drury	

MAY

6	Sat	Veteran Meeting	2:30pm
11	Thur	Entertainment Night	7:30pm
13	Sat	Motorcycle Meeting	2:30pm
17	Wed	Mid-week Tourer's Run	
17-19		Mid-week Tourer's Tour refer page 18	
19-20		Northland Motorcycle Rally hosted by Northland Branch	
19-20		Auckland Classic Motorcycle Show - Trust Stadium Henderson	
24	Wed	Charabanc Maintenance Night	8:00pm
25	Thur	Club Night	7:30pm
27	Sat	Vintage Meeting	2:30pm
28	Sun	Experts Rally	
30	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 is open during the clubrooms opening hours plus Thursday mornings from 9am to noon.

A month ago I'm sure none of us would have dreamt that the main topic of conversation would be the weather, let alone cyclones. And to think we have had two of them. Our thoughts and prayers must go out to the many people hit by these two terrible events. On this note, I must thank you all for the many phone calls and messages sent to Alan and I having experienced a second 5 foot + flood over all our vehicles. Work has started again on the Chevrolets, Vauxhall and motorcycles. Our problems are small compared to others in many parts of New Zealand.



The Retention Tanks mentioned in my last report have been installed and appear to be doing the job they were set up to do. Long may it last. A big thank you to club member, Stephen Leech for his advice, members who turned up on the first working day, and Russel McAlpine and Glenn Morris who saw the job through to completion.

Members who attended the National Motorcycle Rally have returned with many tales to tell and I'm sure we will hear all about the miles soon.

January Club Night was a good time for a drink and sausage sizzle and to catch up after the Christmas break.

We have had two "Discussion Nights" over the last month –

- A Discussion Document looking at the future of the Long Service Awards. The time and travel costs of the President, or her representative, attending branches to give the 50 year badges as the club membership gets older, are costly, and the time for office staff to support all the badge presentations is also increasing. Seven options ranging from Continue as now, to Abandon all Long Service awards have been put forward.

- Our February Entertainment Night was set aside to discuss the Discussion Paper on the New Constitution of the club. This is required because of recent legislative changes leading to the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022. The Changes the Incorporated Society are making could affect us. These changes will not happen immediately. The next year or more will be busy with bureaucratic issues for the Club of which, we are a Branch. I know many of you are not very interested in these matters, however without the Club our activities as they are now would not be possible.

Tracey and I will take the views of those present to the March Executive Meeting in Christchurch and will let you know any decisions as they come forward.

We can be proud of the recent National Veteran Rally hosted by our Branch. Barry and Nicola Birchall (Rally Director & Secretary), with members John Stokes, John Morrison and Alastair Moffat are to be congratulated on organising the event which went off smoothly, with entrants enjoying themselves over the three-day event.

My thanks to Roland Howell (Onehunga Towing) who provided and drove the backup vehicle for the weekend, Tracey Winterbottom, Jodi and Paul Tomlin, Michelle and Jeremy Lambert for organising and cooking the BBQ on Friday night, Rodger and Val Ball for working out the competitive results, Peter Wood & Neil Beckenham for judging the Concourse, John Campbell, Wayne Roberts, and Don Johnston for organising the Gymkana, and the many members who turned up each day to do marshalling duties. A full report will be in the April Bulletin.

I look forward to seeing you all out and about.
Shaaran

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Thanks to those who made the effort to come out last month to discuss the initial proposal around a new governance structure for the club and constitution changes that will be required by both the national club and our branch.

Shaaran and I are in Christchurch this weekend for the executive meeting where these changes will be discussed for the first time. Those who were at the clubrooms were fairly unanimous in support of Option 1, with comments that perhaps we need a slightly bigger elected "board".

It is a balance between big enough to ensure good representation without being too big and unworkable. There will be plenty more to come in this space so keep up to date through the Bulletin and emails, and please come and have a chat anytime.

There is plenty on over the next couple of months, with most entry forms coming out in the weekly email updates being sent. If there is one mantra I have taken on with all the disruptions and events of late; it is not to put things off, or "leave it to next year". Who knows what is around the corner, get out and make the most of everything as the opportunities come.

A reminder to all to make use of our fabulous Clubrooms. We are open every Saturday afternoon from 4.30pm to 6.30pm. On the second and fourth Thursday evenings 7:30 to 10:00pm with the Library and Spares being open at these times too.

There is always a table of convivial conversation, so drop in for a noggin and natter.

We are also lucky enough to have a dedicated team looking after the spares and they also open up on Thursday mornings between 9am and midday. So there are plenty of opportunities for you to sift through the bits and pieces both in the barn and under the main clubrooms.

Finally, our AGM is only 3 months away. We are always looking for new blood on the committee. Please give this some thought? How can you contribute to your branch? Remember that your committee are all volunteers and they need your support and help at times.

Thanks
Tracey



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We Need

Helpers & Marshalls

VINTAGE MUSTER

Sunday, 30th April

Please contact Lynda Spicer

spicerclan2017@gmail.com or 021 189 3120

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

What can I say – I hope that you have all fared well and stayed safe during this hideous bout of inclement and unprecedented weather events Auckland and elsewhere has suffered during February. And if you have family in Gisborne, East Coast or Hawkes Bay I hope that they are safe and well.

John Stokes' Veteran meetings continue to get good attendance and a number of them were really looking forward to the National Veteran Rally hosted by Auckland branch, based out in Tuakau.

We sadly saw the final Classic Motorcycle Festival that has been at the Pukekohe race track for the past 42 years. Our branch has had a significant amount to do with this annual event, from helping out at the main gates, to being Oil Marshalls for many years, organisers for years of the Red Eye Rooster Rally, held on the Sunday morning, Pit Gate marshalls, helping out in the commentary box being goffers and one year Martin was a race announcer. Martin and I spent the Waitangi weekend there and in all our years of attendance (only missing the first one and one other about 25 years ago) we have never witnessed crowds like it. There may not have been the international names that the event drew in the past, but during the weekend many New Zealand World Champions featured either racing, or meeting with people. 3 New Zealand created and built in NZ Britten Bikes raced around the track giving demonstrations - amazing. This event will be sadly missed from both a motorcycle meeting of unique qualities and locally the economy will be impacted on quite severely.

Martin's motorcycle meeting was well attended, unfortunately due to other commitments I could not be there. However I did send him in with a lovely afternoon tea for everyone, so the boys didn't miss out at all. Chris Hyland of Motomail, College Hill, brought along his 1968 Triumph Trident. Chris has been a huge stalwart of the Classic Motorcycle Festival for a great many years. Thanks Chris. See Martin's report.

About 15 members of our motorcycle section went down to Invercargill for the National Motorcycle Rally. They were away for 3 weeks. They kept Martin and I abreast everyday of what was happening and we are looking forward to seeing a full report of their intrepid journey to, during and from the rally.

The monthly club night was very poorly attended – just 15 people and 4 of those were committee members. You MISSED a really good night, watching a slide show and listening to a really interesting and humorous talk, from Phil Prior, about entering a Jowett car that was 70 years old, into the Targa Rally, that was held last year in the South Island. Mike Greig was also in attendance (he is a member of the Waitemata branch and often comes along to the motorcycle meetings) and gave a talk about his entry into the Targa, which was in the category of car costing less than \$2K to buy. He entered a Mercedes 420S class. It seemed that although the Targa is extremely challenging with all the time trials, there is great camaraderie amongst all the competitors. Thanks for your time.

The Vintage Section meetings continue getting good turn outs. Vintage Section, please remember to get your **VINTAGE MUSTER entry forms in as soon as possible**. It will be starting in Drury and finishing in between Pukekohe and Bombay which gives everyone easy access onto the motorways for their journey home.

Yesterday Martin went along to the start of the Saturday Rally for the National Veteran Rally and also the 50th running of our branch Veteran run. Today, we had a club run out to Waiuku where all the gorgeous vehicles were on display. Again, a poor show of people for the run – 9 vehicles including 1 motorcycle plus a new member who was in his modern. The Veteran vehicles were proudly displayed for the general public to enjoy as well as club members. Martin did an interview with a local newspaper (and a chap interested in old vehicles to boot) – we will try and get a copy of the newspaper when it goes to print, which is only monthly. There will be a full story of this weekend in due course, complete with some photos.

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VETERAN NOTES

About ten or eleven people attended the February meeting and by the time you read this the National Veteran Rally will have been and gone.

Denis Lowe produced a very well corroded spark plug which looked like a very rough lump of steel with a ceramic knob sticking out. Just shows what salt water can do.

Phil Henley is doing work to his single cylinder Cadillac, he is also preparing to have a cylinder block for his 1913 Mitchell cast, a quite challenging undertaking.

Roy Sharman produced an immaculate hubcap for a Havers Six, made in Port Huron Michigan, this car was allegedly sold through the Reimers and Roche vehicle wholesaling agency in Auckland, and spent some of its life in the Drury area, it was converted to a truck before its demise, and the hubcap is the only known surviving part. Best Google Havers Six Automobile if you want to know more.

Barry Birchall has his four cylinder Cadillac running for the first time in a while.

Gavin Welch has made some alterations to the mudguards on his Model T Ford.

Thanks to overseas help an Aluminium inlet manifold in spares was identified as 1915-16 Overland Model 81 or 83. Photos of some other parts will be sent for ID.

That's all for this month.

Regards John

Join us for our annual

VINTAGE MUSTER

Sunday, 30th April

**Come on vintagents, enjoy some fun
rural motoring and maybe win a prize...**

Penny and I took part in the very enjoyable Gisborne branch 'Three Rivers Rally' and managed to get home just ahead of the worst of Cyclone Gabrielle.

Our thoughts and concerns go out to all those affected by the overwhelming disaster that the cyclone has wrought. There are so many people whose lives have been destroyed, and they will be needing both our physical and moral support for quite some time.

Our monthly meeting date was changed to avoid clashing with the National Veteran Rally, and as the clubrooms were in use, we met at Neil Lucas's place, surrounded by old cars – quite appropriate.

Neville Holland brought along some old newspaper clippings from the early 1920s, covering a motor accident on the Whau bridge (wooden, single lane) involving two trucks, one being his grandfather's. The other guy was charged with 'failing to give way' John Towers tried some fibreglass to restore the wings on his Humber, but the result was less than satisfactory, so he is shaping sheet metal to do the job.

Owen Hayward recently had some problems with the normally very smooth clutch on his Paige. After removing the gearbox to get at the clutch, replacing a broken bolt rectified the problem.

Tim Gray gave us a little more sparkplug history. He has acquired some porcelain spark-plug centres from New Jersey where they were manufactured. Apparently, any of these that didn't meet quality control requirements were simply tipped down a hole, to be dug up 110 years later, (Automotive archaeology?)

Ross Bellamy advertised in Beaded Wheels wanting some windscreen wiper parts for his model A. No response at first, but when the ad was repeated in the next issue, success!

Arthur Atkins brought along a box of period wing mirrors and tail lights which he offered to anyone who could use them.

Tim Gray went home with a box of Model T bits that our host, Neil, had picked up and had no use for.

Penny and I are driving down to Wellington in the old Bedford truck shortly, to take part in the Veteran and Vintage rally, which traverses the lower half of the North Island over 7 days. They say there is no substitute for experience, and as the combined experience of the truck and it's crew is over 250 years, it should be a doddle. I will report in next month's Notes.

Murray & Penny

MOTORCYCLE NOTES

Saturday dawned warm and sunny, which was a relief after all the wind and rain we've had. Martin arrived at the clubrooms at the same time as our guest speaker Chris Hyland and partner Jan. Chris brought his beautiful 1968 Triumph Trident into the club rooms ready for the meeting. As there were a number of our members still en route from the South Island, after attending the National Motorcycle Rally and the Burt Munro Festival, our numbers were down to only 30, with 11 bikes parked out the back. Thank you to Chris LeGrice's wife Robyn and Nancy Carkeek for serving the afternoon tea for Lynda.

Dave Williams (Harley Man) came along to rejoin the branch, welcome back Dave.

Martin told the members about losing our friend Dave Pitches recently, after a short, illness, Dave owned a Matchless G80 & a Vincent Comet plus a Riley and MG cars, we will all miss Dave, a true gentleman.

REPORTS

Martin gave us an update about our members down in the South Island for the National Motorcycle Rally and the Burt Munro festival. Then talked about the recent and last Classic Motorcycle Racing Register Festival held at the Pukekohe Park race track, what a great meeting, with over 400 riders and machines, it was great to see the car/bike parks full up, as were the grandstands, it's such a shame that it's all come to an end now for Pukekohe.

Martin told us about the upcoming National Veteran Rally that our branch is hosting in Tuakau, and the up coming Brits & Euro Car Show in Pakuranga, please think about putting your motorcycles on our club stand, let us know if your coming?

He then informed us that at the March motorcycle meeting the guest speaker will be Les Harris the oldest competing motorcycle racer in the world at 98. Les will be supported by his son Tim and granddaughter, 21 year old Olivia, who raced one of Les' Bantams at the recent Pukekohe meeting, they will be coming down from Whangarei for the meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Soon to be leaving for the Hawkes Bay, Graeme Crawley told us about the upcoming Ariel rally in Ormaru, we then wished him all the best for his move. Then Inia Taylor (classic bike racer) told us about his plans to hold a beach racing (demonstrations) festival at Muriwai beach, he hopes to attract a selection of motorcycles and cars that may have raced on the beach, plus others with cars and bikes that would like to take part. Inia is forming a small committee to get things started, if anyone is interested in this let him know? inia@mokoink.com 021 891 667

Member John Shennan told us about the upcoming BSA rally that will be held in Rotorua, if anyone wants more info on this call John – 0210775650.

GUEST SPEAKER

Chris Hyland the owner of "MOTOMAIL" came to talk to us. Chris brought along his immaculate 1968 Triumph Trident. This model was number 47 out of the first 100 made, they all went to the USA. Chris told us how the Trident came about, it started with a 500 T100 then the factory added another cylinder to make a 750. Unfortunately at the same time Honda launched their 750 4 which stole the limelight. The Trident was faster, handled better, and was lighter. The Triumphs main market was the USA, but they didn't like the styling of the bike. The following year they made it look more like the Bonneville, and it did then sell better but it was too late, people wanted 4 cylinders, disc brakes, electric starters, indicators, and a choice of colours. The one high point of the Trident & BSA Rocket 3's were their race bikes that were so dominant on the race tracks until the closure of the factory. Today these Trident & BSA Rocket 3s still look great and are very collectable.

Chris finished by talking about the closure of Pukekohe race track and what's going to take its place.

Chris, a long time race committee member, said that the Puke festival was the only meeting that made money for their club. This helped to cover the cost of all their other meetings through the year. He said that the cost of hiring these race tracks around NZ is very high, you just wouldn't believe it.

Martin thanked Chris for giving us his time, to come and chat to us.

Martin Spicer & Jack Clark



LIBRARY NOTES

Despite the catastrophic weather in Auckland over the past three weeks the library has escaped flooding, much to the relief of the library team and committee members.

This month we warmly acknowledge the donations of books and magazines from the estates of the late George Mihaljevich, Ray Officer, Bryan Belcher and Don Hugins. While these include some books that are already in the library all donations are gladly accepted so we can maintain the best copies of every edition.

Last month we received an autobiography of the career of John Cooper, surprisingly this month we were given a copy of Adrian Newey's "How to Build a Car" Harper Collins 2017.

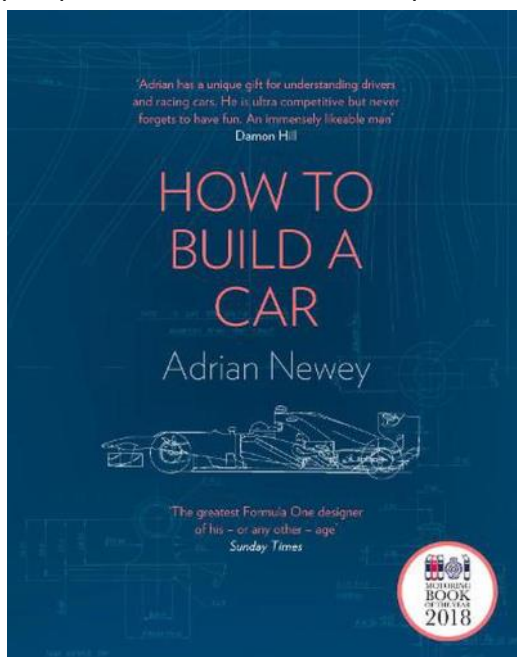
Adrian Newey OBE, is considered to be one of the greatest Formula One engineers of all time, with his resume boasting more than 150 Grand Prix victories and a record-setting 10 Constructors' Championships.

In this extraordinary memoir, the book traces Newey's incredible 35-year career, including the races his cars have won, the teams and drivers he's worked with in Formula One, and of course, the F1 cars he has built.

Although the Newey-designed Red Bull RB6, RB7, RB8, and RB9 cars won four consecutive titles, his time at Williams was the most successful of Newey's career. From 1991 to 1997 his cars took 59 Grand Prix wins, 78 pole positions, and set 60 fastest laps out of the 114 races in that period. Punctuating the success was four Drivers' Championships (Nigel Mansell 1992, Alain Prost 1993, Damon Hill 1996, Jacques Villeneuve 1997) and five Constructors' Championships (1992 – Williams FW14B, 1993 – Williams FW15C, 1994 – Williams FW16, 1996 – Williams FW18, 1997 – Williams FW19).

With such a technical subject there is the potential for it to be highly specialised and on the boring side, but this book is anything but and a truly fascinating read!

The Library Team



As you all know, the February run was cancelled at the last minute due mainly to the National State of Emergency declared by the Government. Totally understandable.

We know that a number of members suffered major damage to homes, vehicles, business's, not to mention the sheer trauma of it all. Included were Alan and Shaaran Price, Norm and Pat Dewhurst, Richard and Lois Green and Oliver and Nicola Midgley (recently moved to Hawkes Bay, Puketapu, one of the hardest hit places.) There will be others, do let us know, although there's not a lot we can do for anyone other than offer moral support. But a kind word and a hug does help.

This month, March, Neil Bielecki is taking us on a run to finish at John Towers' home in Manukau. John is a well known Chevrolet man, with the usual interesting shed. His wife, Marion is a Team Leader and member of the NZ Genealogy Society and will keep the ladies (and others interested) enthralled. Her advice is to bring any basic details to start you off. They have also offered to supply tea and coffee, and barbequed sausages.

Later this year Jack is taking a well earned trip overseas for a couple of months, so we would welcome any offers from you to help out in his absence. Probably June-July-August.

Coming events:

- Wednesday 15th March - Starts from BP Service Centre, Southern Motorway, Drury. 10-00 am for a 10-30 am departure. BYO camp chairs, but hot drinks and BBQ supplied
- Wednesday 19th April - Starts from The Warehouse carpark, Old Westgate. 10-00am for a 10-30 am departure. Jack will be trying again for his postponed run to Riverhead. BYO everything.
- Wednesday 17th May - Starts from the BP Service centre, Southern Motorway, Drury. Could be an earlier start time, more details to come. We expect to be hosted for lunch at the Kaihere School, near Ngatea. BYO lunch and camp chairs.

Note that the run to the Ngatea Water Gardens, previously suggested, will probably be at a later date. (May is their winter hours and although they will open for us on the day, it's very difficult to say how many of us there would be?)

Your Mid-week Team



ENTERTAINMENT REPORT

February

Thursday 9th was discussion night on the constitution changes coming up for the NZVCC management structure due to the updating of the 1908 Incorporated Society Act.

Committee member Glenn Morris gave a presentation on what the differences meant in a very easy to understand way, which was great for those of us who find things such as constitutions a boring minefield.

To say that thirteen members attended this discussion, eight of which were committee members and their spouses, was a disappointment, is indeed an understatement.

Please check out the Secretary's Notes for further information and come along to future discussion events to ensure your club is the best it can be.

Club Night on the 22nd saw Phil Prior talk of his experiences racing his Jowett Javelin in the latest Targa Rally. Regrettably I missed this as Jocelyn and I were heading off on our South Island trek to the National Model A rally in Methven. By all accounts it was a great talk but again to low numbers!

March

9th – Noggin & Natter

23rd – Club Night

Come along to hear Todd Niall, author of the NZ Trekka and The Bambina Story – two vehicles with a lot of history and I am sure humour. Around 2,500 Trekka's were built between 1966 and 1972 at the vehicle assembly plant of Motor Holdings, in Ōtāhuhu South Auckland.



April

27th - Club Night

A summary in words and pictures of our members grand tour to Invercargill for the National Motorcycle Rally and Burt Munro Festival.

Russel



WERE YOU ONE OF THE HELPERS ON THE BARN RE- FURBISHMENT?



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN FUTURE CLUB BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS?

We'd like to build a list of members who would be happy to receive a phone call to ask if they are available for projects that may pop up from time-to-time around the clubrooms.

I know I really enjoyed the camaraderie with those involved in the refurbishment of the barn and the work done was of top quality.

If you are prepared to lend a hand, please contact me (Russel McAlpine) to be added to the list? You can phone me on 0274735451, or email me at rjmc Alpine@xtra.co.nz. Let's know your name, telephone number, email address and any expertise you may have (this is not a requirement as any sort of helping hand is a good one)?

THANKS
Russel



Mid-week Tourers' Tour May 2023

aka The 2 Autobahn cafes run, only 8 miles apart, but

We'll do it our way! (3 days and 300 miles apart.)

It may be called a "Mid-week Tourers" run, but mid-weekers are just *members*. This event is open to every member of our club. If you are interested, and have three days to spare (or even one day for the water garden bit) and enjoy your club motoring, then please join us.

- ♦ Starting on **Wednesday 17th May**, in conjunction with our usual monthly Mid-week run.
- ♦ First stop, the **Ngatea Water Gardens**, (BYO lunch)
- ♦ The overnigheters carry on via Tahuna, Mangateparu, Kereone, Hinuera, to the Okoroire Hot Springs hotel for a 2 night stay.
- ♦ **Thursday** is a free day, there's a private Golf course, Hobbiton, two museums, antique shopping, hot mineral pools, take your choice.
- ♦ **Friday** we return via Arapuni, Kihikihi, Pirongia, Waitetuna, Glen Murray, Bombay.

There will be as few main roads as possible, some "pioneering" roads will be used. The usual Mid-week format, non- competitive touring, enjoyable vintage motoring over quiet vintage roads, with good company, new country (for some of us) and some attractions thrown in.

The Okoroire Hotel is a popular heritage hotel where we can relax, it has a good restaurant and they are looking forward to welcoming us. They still have rooms available, but please advise us asap if you require a room, you do not want to miss out!

Contact Norm & Pat - dewdrops@xtra.co.nz



For the attention of the long term Auckland Branch Members who still receive a printed copy of this Bulletin.

After much consideration and investigation by your committee it has been decided that it is necessary for the Bulletin to go to digital format ONLY. This is planned to change from 1 June 2023.

We've had the printing requoted from a number of sources and cannot get a printed copy delivered to you for less than \$4.30 per issue. By going digital we will save the branch around \$10,000 annually.

We feel it is the right move for the branch. It means that the money stays in the branch funds to be channelled to the general running of the clubrooms and lessens the inevitable levy increase to come for 2023/2024.

If you DO NOT have an email account, please contact us as soon as possible? This is the second to last mailed Bulletin. Your final paper Bulletin will be the May 2023 issue.

For our newer members it's status quo, you are already used to only receiving by email.

Thank you
Your Committee



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2023 THE LAST PUKEKOHE CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE FESTIVAL

The very first festival started in 1980, and over the 43 years it has had all the greats in the world of motorcycle racing, and a host of world championship winning motorcycles, the biggest star has to be MV Augusta & Yamaha world champion Giacomo Agostini.

Lynda and I first attended the Classic Festival in 1983. One of my highlights was when John Surtees and Sammy Miller were demonstrating their MV 500 & Moto Guzzi 500 V8.

Our club had been running the Red Eyed Rooster bike rally on the Sunday mornings from the track for years, at this meeting I had won my class on my Golden Flash, and at the lunch time break John & Sammy were on the start line presenting all the class winners with plaques, and there I was getting my plaque from John Surtees, a fellow Londoner (I lived 3 miles from John's dad's motorcycle shop in Crystal Palace, he was a Vincent dealer.)

For me, this last race meeting started on Thursday afternoon. Our grandson Riley and I went up to our clubrooms to pick up the marquee and the branch's two large banners and then onto Pukekohe race circuit to put them up. We were again on the grass area alongside the motorcycle parking area where we have been for years. Other clubs setting up marquees were the Italian, Velocette, Norton and BSA clubs. Once we were set up we went home in pouring rain.

Friday morning, we arrived at the track at 10am, practice had started. It was amazing how quickly the hillside area's were filling up with motor homes, caravans and tents of varying sizes. The pit area was full to overflowing. There was well over 400 machines entered. This was the first time in its history that they had to turn late entries away.

The rain returned around 2.30pm, not a good omen for the weekend. Saturday morning dawned bright and sunny, we arrived at 10.30am, by 11am the motorcycle park was filling up nicely. We had some of our branch members motorcycles parked in front of our stand, I had my 1957 BSA Bantam there, and a number of our members were also outside the other stands being joint members. By lunch time it was very hot and humid, the bike racing was also hot! We had branch members taking a turn at manning the stand, so we could have a look around the pits.

In one of the pits was a kiwi motorcycle legend Les Harris. Les was on National TV Thursday evening because he is the oldest motorcycle racer in the world at 98. Aucklander Les, was surrounded by his family, that came from Wellington and Whangarei. Les said he has had 50 bikes & 50 cars and 3 wives. He races 3 BSA Bantams, he has been taking part in all the hill climbs in NZ for a great many years. Les' granddaughter Olivia was riding one of his Bantam's for the first time. When Les and Olivia went out onto track together they were being filmed for a documentary on Les.

Other personalities at the track were Hugh Anderson, Ginger Molloy, Andrew Stroud, Steven Briggs, Paul Pavletich, UK's Bill Swallow, Irish rider Mike Brown who was riding

Peter Lodges giant killing ES2 push rod Norton that Mike came 3rd on in last years IOM Manx GP, with a fastest lap of 110mph. Colin Tucker the Speedway Guru had two bikes on display.

Also there was Des Molloy the author of "Last Hurrah Beijing to Arnhem". Our bike meeting speaker from last month Graham Viall was riding his ex Graham Crosby 1980 works Suzuki XR69, Graham's friend Jake Garner was to ride a Honda VFR750R but the clutch failed, but luckily for Jake member David Morley offered Jake his immaculate and expensive 500 Manx Norton.

There were also five Australian & one Swedish rider competing. The meeting was honouring the late multi bike champion Rodger Freeth with 4 of his 1980's McIntosh Suzuki's; these bikes were out on the track being demonstrated alongside two of the brilliant Brittens, there was also a 3rd Britten on display in the pits. Also on track were two Brough Superiors and the late Peter Morelli's Vincent Black Lightning racer that held a land speed record in South Africa.

On Sunday, again it was hot and sunny, Lynda and I and grand kids, Riley and Isabella, arrived at the track at 10am. The place was packed, they even had to open up a large grass area for more parking, the bike park was a feast with so many different makes in their hundreds, from well used to brand new.

There was a very large tent that housed a lot of Mike Ensor's unrestored Veteran collection, Peter Thomson had a veteran Triumph on display. Also there were two out-of-this-world hub centre steering motorcycles, they were called "ZIODIROG", one had a 250 Kawasaki engine, the other had an 800 Ducati engine, the workmanship was outstanding, very futuristic looking. They are being made in Wellington and they were taking orders for them.

During the lunch break there was a flying demo by an American Kitty Hawk fighter from the Warbirds Association. Whilst walking around the pits we came upon the Lola F5000 race car of Kiwi motor racing legend Kenny Smith and both Riley and Isabella were allowed to sit in the driving seat for a photo. We watched some of the racing from the grandstand that was nearly full up.

At the end of Sundays racing there was The Road Bike Parade, riders had paid \$25 for the privilege of riding the track for the last time behind a pace car for 3 laps. Some of them had to try hard to stay up with the car.

At the end of the day we packed up all of our stuff as did the other clubs. I chatted with Ken McIntosh, who was very happy with the outcome of the weekend's festival of motorcycle racing, this was probably the largest turnout at the track, such a shame it was for the last time ever there. (See pictures overleaf).

Martin Spicer



Clockwise from Above: Olivia Harris with Riley and Isabella and her grandfather's BSA Bantam. 98 Year Old Les Harris heading out onto the track. 250 Kawasaki engine Ziodirog. 800cc Ducati engine Ziodirog with hub steering. Kenny Smith's F5000 Lola and the grandkids.



NORTH SHORE BRANCH VCCNZ

50th Anniversary celebration

SUNDAY 19 MARCH 2023

OPEN DAY and MORNING RALLY

All members of VCC Branches and One-Make car clubs
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Morning Rally

Coffee Cart

Tours of the restoration
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1934 Chevrolet Fire Engine

Open Day and Rally start at 9.30.

Competitive and touring morning rally starts from NSVCC
Clubrooms, Masons Road. See our website for entry form.

www.northshorevccc or look up our Facebook page

***Just turn up at any time on Sunday to meet our members
and see our cars.***

SPARES DEPT.

The Parts Team are in action every Thursday morning from 9am until midday and since we have that fact recorded in the Week Ahead, the result has been that we now have a number of club members visiting each week.

Fresh in stock is what we have obtained from cleaning out the sheds of the late Jim Boag and the late Brian Belcher.

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 2 only Complete Gas Torches – single tip \$15 NZIG with full set of tips - \$20
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Villiers 9D 125cc motorcycle engine. If you can help please contact Paul Whitehead
07 549 2212 bsajames@hotmail.com. Thank you.

NEW MEMBERS

A most sincere welcome is extended to the following 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?

Kevin Carberry

Manurewa

1972 Triumph Spitfire Mk4

Matthew Ensor

Glendowie

1967 Austin Princess

Michael Howell

Waima

1973 Triumph T140 Bonneville

Robert Main

Tuakau

1970 Bond Equipe GT

William Baird

The Gardens

1965 Norton Dominator 88 SS

Ross Dale

Papakura

1939 DeSoto Deluxe

Robert Kennedy

Blockhouse Bay

1957 Norton S

Steve Wilson

Whangamata

1930 Ford Model A

Dean Herbison

Herne Bay

1967 Rambler Rebel
1976 Chevrolet Chevyvan

Jason Roberts

Titirangi

1951 Rover 75
1970 BMW 50/5 Motorcycle

Phil Pacey

Drury

1971 Toyota Land Cruiser

Noel Shaw

Albany

Various

Robert Vukich

Shelly Park

1970 Holden GTS Monaro

Anton Toki

Te Atatu South

1967 Morris Oxford Estate

Paul Keeling

Beachlands

1959 Triumph Trophy

Brett Baillie

Whitford

1951 Vincent Comet
1970 Triumph Bonneville
1969 BSA Rocket 111
1962 BSA Super Rocket A10R

YOUR COMMITTEE & OFFICERS

Chairman

Shaaran Price (Alan)

Email: birdwoodprices@gmail.com

H: 09 833 8575
M: 0204 195 2476

Vice Chairman/Health & Safety Officer

Don Green (Brenda)

Email: greend@slingshot.co.nz

H: 09 266 8836
M: 021 073 2642

Secretary/Delegate/Privacy Officer:

Tracey Winterbottom (Stephen) Email: aucklandvcc@gmail.com

H: 09 232 0246
M: 021 732 209

Treasurer:

Alastair Moffat (Karin)

Email: treasureravvcc@outlook.com

H: 09 813 1313
M: 027 493 3229

Club Captain:

Lynda Spicer (Martin)

Email: spicerclan2017@gmail.com

H: 09 233 6382
M: 021 189 3120

Committee Members:

Martin Spicer (Lynda)

Motorcycle Section Rep/Immediate Past Chairman

Email: spicerclan2017@gmail.com

H: 09 233 6382
M: 022 102 5954

John Morrison

Event Co-ordinator/Inter-Club Liaison/Name Badges

Email: morrison03@gmail.com

H: 09 521 6307
M: 022 655 1479

Russel McAlpine (Jocelyn)

Entertainment/Building & Garden Maintenance

Email: rjmc Alpine@xtra.co.nz

H: 09 818 4285
M: 027 473 5451

Glenn Morris (Marion)

Continuous Membership Awards Steward

Email: glenn-maze@xtra.co.nz

M: 021 136 5926

Jeremy Lambert (Michelle)

Clubroom Bookings

Email: velo500@icloud.com

M: 027 576 7045

Harvey Brewer

Spares Dept. Rep

Email: harveygrahambrewer@gmail.com

H: 09 238 3617

Jodi Tomlin (Paul)

Bulletin Editor/ Trophy Steward/Social Convenor/New Member Liaison

Email: avvcceditor@gmail.com

M: 021 678 258

Non-Committee Positions:

Library Team Leader

Richard Green (Lois)

Email: randlgreen@orcon.net.nz

H: 09 489 2427 M: 021 818 334

Spares Team Leader

Bill Hulse (Sherrill)

Email: bill.sherrill@xtra.co.nz

M: 09 579 0494

Beaded Wheels Reporters

John Stokes/Jocelyn McAlpine/Peter Wood

Mid-Week Tourers Rep

Jack Nazer H: 09 378 4580

Email: jack_nazer@yahoo.co.nz

Veteran Section Rep & VIC Officer

John Stokes

H: 09 236 4582 or M: 0272 772 108

Email: jcstokes96a@xtra.co.nz

Vintage Section Rep

Murray Firth

Email: pennymurray@xtra.co.nz

H 09 818 6434

Insurance

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

Clubrooms

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Postal Address:

Club Night:

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39 Fairfax Ave, Penrose

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4th Thursday of the month

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

Branch Email Address

aucklandvcc@gmail.com

Library Email Address

libraryavvcc@gmail.com

Branch Website

www.avvcc.org.nz

Branch Honorary Life Members:

Barry Robert

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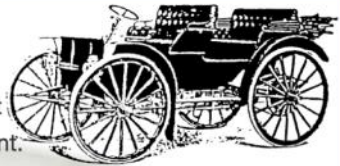


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