

SIDE CURTAINS

The magazine of the
ROTORUA VINTAGE AND
VETERAN CAR CLUB

OCTOBER 2016



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www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

September Club Run to Waitoa



SIDE CURTAINS - October 2016

The magazine of the ROTORUA
VINTAGE AND VETERAN CAR CLUB

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Club Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of month (except January), 7.15pm for 7.30pm start

OFFICERS

Chairperson - David Tomlinson

Secretary - Dennis Whimp

Treasurer - Terry Fitzpatrick

Club Captain - Angie Brunton

Asst. Club Captain - Kevin Scott

Committee

Lois Thompson

Terry Wadsworth

Steve De Jeu

Darryl Stretch

Roger Nelson

John Peters

Patron - Bob Mowbray

Mid Weekers - Bob Mackay

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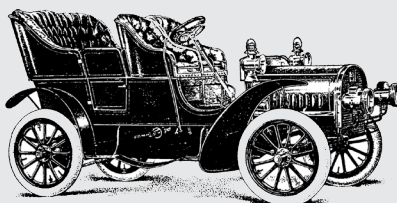
Beaded Wheels - Ronald Mayes

Librarian - Roger Couchman

Asst Librarian - John Kirkland

CONTENTS

Chairman's Report	2
Club Captain's Report	3
Xmas Social / Membership	4
Sulphur City Rally report	5
September Run to Waitoa	6
Brits At The Beach 2016	7
Buy / Sell / Swap	9
Mystery vehicles	10
Upcoming Mid Week runs	11
Events Calendar	12



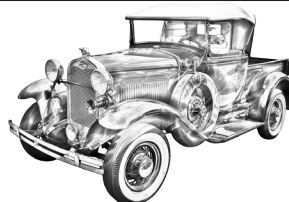
Cover Photos

Front - Datsun 120YSSS on display

Back - September Run to Waitoa

CLUB CAR PHOTOS

If you want your club car photo on the clubroom wall then get in touch with Doug Green, and he will organise a time and place for a photo shoot. It would be good if we could have all member's car photos on display.



Chairman's Report

- September 2016

by David Tomlinson



Despite being past the branch's busiest time of year it has been a very busy motoring month for me, as well as club night and committee night, I took part in the excellent club run to the Waitoa collection of Gordon Malcolm. I managed to perform significant maintenance in the evenings to three of my classics including replacing sway bar links and fitting tricky parts in impossible places, then Fleur and I took my Rolls and Bentley to Brits At The Beach in Whangamata for four (wet) days.

While I can't take the time away from work to travel with the Spring Tour at the end of this month, I will be one of a few members who will travel down for the Waiouru vehicles visit on the last day of the tour. Thanks Bob for organising this as an option for all branch members.

As well as the 4 day Spring Tour at the beginning of November we will host the Lakefront Car Show again on 22nd January at the Village Green. Please encourage people to come along to the show, and anyone you meet who has an interesting vehicle, no matter what its age, encourage them to bring it along and display it. Next year's event will be marketed as being between 9am to 2pm, as the last couple of years has seen the green empty by 3pm.

The branch will be having a social night before Christmas at the clubrooms on 10 December, more details in the Club Captain's report and in the November issue of Side Curtains.

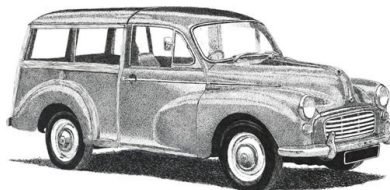
We have had no interest expressed from within the branch to become the next keeper of the Bedford K truck, so the committee will consider interest from other VCC branch members at its next meeting. It is not too late to express your interest in the truck, but please let a committee member know urgently if you do wish to consider being the next keeper. A reminder it is on rego hold.

We have a good number of cars lined up for club nights for the next few months, one may have to be displayed on the lawn out front in the summer due to its height. Please let me know if you would like to display your vehicle(s) on a Wednesday night.

See you at a club night or event soon.

Club Captain's Report

by Angie Brunton



After busy months in August and September it has been a bit quieter.

Des & I were away visiting family down south so missed club night, it would have been good to see the Datsun in the room. A few members have been away overseas (and who can blame them) wanting to escape the wet spring weather we have been having.

The Club run held on September 18th did not have many participants due to the rain at the start of the day but it was fine for our picnic lunch. Those who attended enjoyed the drive and the collection we saw. See Neville's write up elsewhere in this issue. Thanks to Kevin Scott, Lois Thompson and Dorothy Clouston who helped in the plotting of the run.

I managed to adjust my work schedule so Des & I could join the midweek touring group for the trip to Arapuni and the Corrugated Creations workshop north of Tirau. Again it was a wet day but we enjoyed our day out and the company of the other members. Thanks to Bob MacKay for all the work he does in planning these runs.

We will be away for this month's club night and monthly run but Assistant Club Captain Kevin has a plan for a run on October 16th. Hope you have a fine day. I hope those members going on the spring tour to Whanganui have a great trip and I look forward to hearing all about it on our return.

The branch will hold a Christmas Social at the clubrooms on Saturday 10 December at a cost of \$20 per person for a 3 course dinner. All those who volunteered at this year's Swap Meet will dine for free!

Till next month, safe motoring
Angie

XMAS SOCIAL DINNER NIGHT

Saturday, December 10th
Clubrooms, 5.30pm for 6pm dinner
3 course dinner - BYO drinks
Swap Meet Volunteers dine free!
All others \$20 per person for a night of
great food and great company!



Please bring a \$5 gift along to exchange

Please advise Lois or Angie if you will attend so
that catering can be organised to suit the numbers.

Membership Matters

From the Club Secretary

Dennis Whimp



WELCOME TO OUR NEW JUNIOR MEMBER

Sean Tomlinson

Sulphur City Rally 2016

by Cliff Wickham



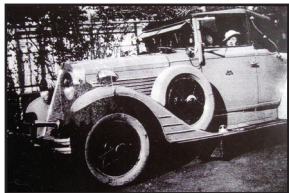
Friday night dinner at a posh hotel, great way to start the weekend. Had to take the Anglia as parts are still coming for the Cortina.

We arrived at the club rooms to find an awesome turnout of entrants and an awesome morning tea (well done team). Got our instructions and away we went, off to the lakes with straight line to keep us thinking trying to work it out, great views for all, especially our visitors from our fellow clubs. Back towards town and head towards Whakatane, all is well until bottom of Rotoma hill, here we find the Whakatane Car Club have closed the road for a hill climb (only advertised in their local paper). Stuffed up the silent check section, well Doug came up with a solution, back to Rotoma school for lunch. Again a new experience for some, a hangi lunch individually wrapped in tin foil. Away after lunch and into the reset silent checks section, around the back of the lake and on to the final check.

Overall it was a great rally, any problems were overcome and we were treated to great scenery and roads, lots of work went into the setting of a laid back enjoyable run. Our thanks go to Doreen & Doug, Lyn & Ken and the other helpers for all their hard work. Back to the Sudima for the prize giving dinner. Great support from local companies made the weekend more special for all the winners. Thanks for a great weekend.

The Grey Ghost.

MYSTERY CARS FROM LAST MONTH'S ISSUE OF SIDE CURTAINS



*1930 Marmon
Roosevelt*



*1956 Jaguar XK-140
(by Ghia)*

September Run to Waitoa

by Neville Harper



The forecast was nothing flash but we still had a few hardy souls turn up for our monthly run to Waitoa. We set off with our rally instructions with the idea of keeping us off the main roads with quite a few questions to keep us off the accelerator. We headed off around Mount Ngongotaha, then through Mamaku, then out through Okoroire and eventually reached Matamata with a peewee stop at the Tower Museum, then on to Waitoa where we ended up at the farm owned by Gordon Malcolm. The weather had cleared up nicely and the tummies were rumbling so it was time for lunch. We all sat outside in the sun and enjoyed the company of the others and lunch of course.

After lunch we started on the sheds. The first open front shed had a line up of 6 tractors (6 Nuffields and 2 Cubs) which were all unrestored but still all useable and used around the farm from time to time, then onto the next shed which housed his family car, a 1958 Chevrolet Belair which has travelled over 300000 miles and was still in exceptional original condition and listening to those doors shutting was like music to my ears. What an amazingly original example of a beautiful American car (I'm not biased of course). There was another 4 restored International Harvester tractors in amazing condition as well as a very tidy Mk1 Cortina and 2 x 1947 International Trucks, a KB1 and a KB6. He started them both and they ran like a sewing machine. There were all sorts of other collectables including a row of old petrol pumps and a Mk 1 Zephyr pedal car in amazing condition, everywhere you looked there were more collectables.

The next shed revealed a contraption that Gordon's brother Bruce built back in 1966 which was built from a Bedford truck and built into a machine that was used for picking up conventional hay bales and could pick up 500 bales per hour. A major advance for the day. This was the first of 26 that were built. Bruce has won 2 other major awards for his inventions at the NZ Field Days. There was lots of other collectables and a few outside that look like they will end there life there.

It was a very interesting day and a nice run over there so a big thank you to Angie, Kevin and Dorothy for arranging the venue and the weather and plotting the rally. Thank you! Participants: Evan and Wyn in the Morrie, Kevin and Des in the Ford V8, Terry and Chrissie in the Oxford, David and Kate in the Roller, Ralph and Joan in the Buick, Neville and Jim in the Hawk, Bob and Pat (started in the Vitesse but arrived in a modern), Bill and Robyn, John and Peter in moderns and Angie and Dorothy in the Morrie "woodie" who plotted the rally.

BRITS AT THE BEACH 2016

by David Tomlinson

The 7th edition of “Brits At The Beach” was held in the Coromandel in the first weekend of October.

The last 3 years have always seen rain at the event, and while perhaps not as bad as 2014, this year was very stormy to the point where most activities on the last day had to be cancelled. I guess it is all part of the “British” experience to have cold, wet weather.

The first day saw 100+ cars travel from Whangamata to Grahamstown, which is the northern end of the Thames main street. Cars were lined up 4 abreast in the street and cafés and other entertainment kept the drivers busy while others perused all the cars. “Best car of the day” went to a lovely 1974 Jensen Interceptor from Rotorua.

The trip there was hellishly slow, taking almost 90 minutes, as older cars negotiated big slips and flooding. The weather improved in the afternoon and many cars went back via Paeroa and Waihi through the Karangahake Gorge.

Saturday saw a car show at the Ocean Sports Club in Whangamata, with improved but still slightly damp weather, with over 300 cars on display. Included amongst these were a very tidy Aston Martin DB2/4, a beautiful Alvis TD21 drophead and the “Car of the Show”, a 1923 Vauxhall Wensum Roadster from Hamilton. The majority of cars on display were Minis and Morris Minors, which were there in large numbers. There were many registered entrants from Rotorua, but only two branch members, Roger and Keitha Couchman and Fleur and myself. I did see many of our branch members visiting to look at the cars though. I spoke to several of the Rotorua cars entered in the event whose cars are club eligible and are not in our membership. This included the owner of the Jensen Interceptor, and the owner of a very nice Cortina Mk1 GT. I hope they consider coming along and seeing us.

On the Saturday afternoon over 100 cars travelled up for another display at Tairua in improving weather, but unfortunately we could not all fit in the domain due to swampy grass, so some cars ended up a distance away, including Fleur with our two year old on board, which was disappointing. Worse still, where they did ask her to park was a quagmire, and the Bentley changed from red to brown all over...

Sunday was a washout and the Pauanui show and swap meet at Whangamata were cancelled as the weather set in solidly. Despite the challenges, Fleur and I will be back again next year, and I might take my old ‘59 J1 Bedford to keep the immaculate ‘79 model at this year’s event company.



The Tale (Tail) of a Bonnet Mascot

by Kevin O'Connor



In the 1920's and 30's it became *de rigueur* for automobile manufacturers who considered themselves to be at the better end of the market to embellish their product with slightly quirky symbols to represent their marque. Bonnet mascots soon became the objects where this symbolism most frequently materialised, and so it was with the Buick, such as the 1935 model which I am currently restoring. What is probably not so well known are the stories behind these mascots, so I thought this one worth relating. The Buick mascots were produced in die-cast zinc and chrome-plated by a company named Ternsted in Detroit, which had become a division of Fisher Bodies, even before Fisher itself became a GM division. Early models featured the Greek god Mercury, and later models worked their way through several iterations of Mercury's winged helmet, before going into a series of 'goddess' type figures.

The mascot on the 1934 & '35 cars (all models) is based on an original sculpture of a very famous celebrity dancer of the era, one Isadora Duncan, whose life was at the same time tragic, whilst both vilified and celebrated. She was born in San Francisco in 1877 and developed an original style of dance which incorporated naturalistic movement into classical ballet. She moved from California and lived in Chicago & New York, before moving to Europe where she studied Greek mythology & visual iconography. She danced barefoot in gossamer sheath-like drapery and was the sensation of the day, founding a whole new genre of dance, and became known as "the mother of modern dance". Nevertheless, disaster and controversy courted her throughout; she was a feminist, a Darwinist and a Communist. She married a Russian poet and lived in Moscow for a while, but left declaring the Russians as "too bourgeois" for her taste, the husband later committed suicide.

Sometimes she danced onstage in a red silk flag and wore a trade-mark, long red scarf wherever she went as a symbol of her politics. Her two young children were killed when the car they were in plunged into the Seine in Paris in 1913 and Isadora herself was seriously injured in several motor accidents. Her woes culminated in final disaster in September 1927, when she was a passenger in a French *Amilcar* sportscar which she was learning to drive, when the red scarf wrapped around the rear axle and wrenched her out of the open car and onto the cobblestone roadway, breaking her neck. Isadora died instantly. My research failed to reveal who designed the figure but the stylized scarf features prominently.

BUY, SELL, SWAP...

FOR SALE

1927/28 Ford Model AR Roadster. Runs well, Current W.O.F. and registration \$35,000.

More photo's available on request.

Contact David Taylor

Email: davidtaylorldr@gmail.com

Phone (07) 343 9392



FOR SALE

1983 Mitsubishi Cordia coupe
1600 Super Shift

Has always been garaged and serviced from new by its only 2 owners. Having an 8 speed gearbox it is the only car I have ever driven that is always in the right gear. The shift gives it a 2 speed diff. Being the first front drive Mitsubishi it is bullet proof. Car has unmarked interior with seats and mats always covered. Body has been repainted 10 years ago. Fitted with 5 factory mags and tow bar.

Contact Reg Munro on 07 348 2770



WANTED - Holden parts

Holden Banjo diff head, ratio 278-1 - phone 07 345 6540

If you would like to place an ad here just email details to the editor or bring it along in print on a club night. A picture of the item is a good idea too! Ads will be run for two consecutive issues unless you ask otherwise.

MYSTERY VEHICLES

Again for this month, two entirely different cars, no link between them at all. Both were made on different continents, but probably neither on the continent you would expect.



NEXT CLUB NIGHT - October 12th

Car In The Room: 1957 Mercedes-Benz 220S

Speaker: Robyn Skelton

Presentation on new Rotorua Youth facility

Upcoming Midweek Runs *by Maurie Crowe*

26th October Midweek run

The next mid week run will be on Wednesday, October 26th.

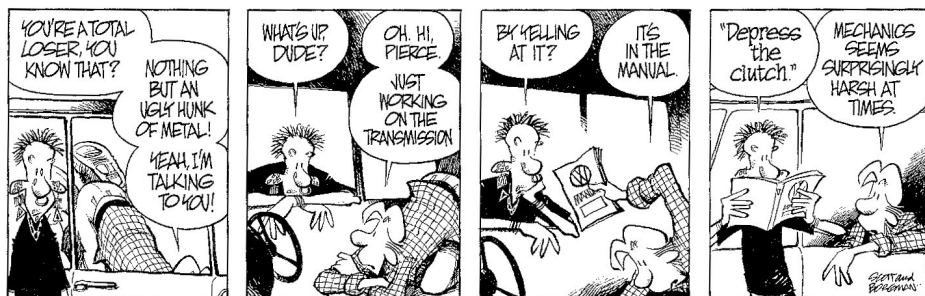
Meet at the club rooms at 10 am for morning tea. After morning tea we will be travelling to a country café for lunch, then we will proceed to a brand new Shopping Centre complex opened in late September. After a look around and maybe a coffee we will continue on and view a group of classic cars.

See you there, 26th October, 10am at the club rooms.

Spring Tour 1st – 4th November *by Bob MacKay*

Presently we have eight cars confirmed for the full tour (tour detailed in last issue of Side Curtains). There is an option for other members to join us for “Behind the scenes of the vehicle collection” at the Waiouru Army Base (cost \$15 pp or \$25 including the Army Museum) on the morning of Friday 4th. The workshops are within the high security area, for this reason we have to supply the army with details including your vehicle make and registration number at least two weeks before our visit. If attending the Waiouru tour, please ensure that Maurie Crowe has your details by the October club night as I will be absent at that time.

Those joining in are to meet in the car park **behind** the museum at 9.30am. If any one wants a quick bite or coffee the Home Fires Café opens at 9am.



COMING EVENTS

	Date	Event	Time	Venue	Page
October	12	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	11
	16	Club Run	TBA	TBA	
	26	Midweekers Run	10am	Clubrooms	11
November	1-4	Spring Tour	TBA	Central North Island	11
	9	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
	13	BBQ Run	1pm	Clubrooms	
	23	Midweekers Run	TBA	TBA	
December	10	Xmas Social	TBA	Clubrooms	4
	14	Club Night	7.30pm	Clubrooms	
January 2017	22	Lakefront Car Show	9am	Rotorua Village Green	

September Club Run Results

Results for the run to Waitoa on September 18:

1st - Terry Wadsworth & Chrissy Cooper

2nd - David & Kate Tomlinson

3rd - Evan & Wyn Dorrington

Contributions to Side Curtains

This is your magazine! Please feel free to share anything you think might be of interest to the membership by sending it to the editor, preferably by email, and a picture says a thousand words, so include photos where possible. Members taking part in club runs or events hosted by other branches are encouraged to pen a short piece about their experience to include in the next issue going to print. All items to the editor by the end of the month.

www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

The committee endeavours to have the branch website meet the needs of our members, and to promote our branch nationally, and to potential new members. If you have any suggestions for additions or improvements to the website please contact David Tomlinson.

September Mid Week Run



