

"Dripfeed"

NEWSLETTER OF THE BANKS PENINSULA BRANCH
OF THE
VINTAGE CAR CLUB OF New Zealand (INC)

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Noggin & Natter: 2nd Thursday of the Month

- Noggin 7.30 pm at the Papanui RSA. Upham Room – enter either from 55 Bellvue Ave or the first entrance on the left on Harewood Road (Papanui / Main North Road)
- **Thursday 9th of November.**
- We look forward to seeing you there. Supper is provided.

From the Editor:

That great traditionalist Peter Croft has been looking back fondly (surprise surprise) to the halcyon days of the Topless Tour, which started in Oamaru in the first weekend in August, when it was nice and brisk..The Topless bit did not refer to decaying moral standards but to the cars, which were not allowed to have a roof or hood. Trevor Timms and Wayne Henderson from Dunedin were the stalwart organisers, and the route always took the field over interesting back country roads and tracks to somewhere in Central Otago , where temperatures were guaranteed to be well below zero. Sort of a mini Irishman, all very character forming. Craig Keenan had a lovely Delage saloon at the time and let it be known that he thought it wasn't fair that saloons weren't allowed, so Dave Richardson, the Dripfeed editor at the time, drew a brilliant cartoon featuring topless content of the moral decay variety in the Delage. Peter Croft is keen to get hold of a copy of this cartoon, and wonders if anyone might have the relevant Dripfeed, somewhere round 2000- 2003. Send a smoke signal or carrier pigeon to Peter and he will be eternally grateful.

Talking of Dripfeed editors, I'm going to stop being one next year at AGM time in May. By then I'll have been writing the usual mixture of slander, innuendo and prejudicial gossip for seven years, which seems to be the life cycle of a Dripfeed editor, if my distinguished predecessors are anything to go by. I suppose the Austin 7 community will be greatly relieved, but I'm pretty sure there's a clause in the constitution that prohibits A7 owners from becoming Dripfeed editors, generously assuming that

some of them can write. So if you are a bigoted narrow minded pedant with a fondness for decent English usage, you'll be ideal, and will be carrying on a fine tradition.

Brian Smith has finally seen the light, sold his modern Mazda and bought a very nice MG TD, ex Ken Hand, and as one of the photos shows, a car that has been used well. I'm sure that Brian will carry on the tradition.

Some years ago the late great Bruce Pidgeon presented a trophy called "The Use not Abuse" trophy, to be presented annually to someone in either the Canterbury or Banks Peninsula branches who had motored briskly throughout the year in competitive events without damaging their car. The trophy is a very striking tall glass case containing used Fiat and Bugatti bits, set on a wooden base,

and over the years previous winners have been tempted to break the glass, extract a Bugatti bit and build yet another factory original Bugatti around it. This year's winner is our own John McDonagh and we hope he too will resist the temptation. Congratulations John.



If you want to continue to receive Dripfeed by post, do be aware that as from next year we will have to charge you for postage of \$33 a year. Given that about fifty members like the printed copy, it's an expense the branch can't keep on carrying.

Tracey sent out on email to you all on the 25th October about a large collection of British cars being sold in Hawkes Bay. The range of cars available is considerable, from regal Armstrong Siddleys, Alvis and Jaguar at one end down to massed Morris Minors, Vauxhall Vivas, and a lone Standard Ten. There's even a Triumph Mayflower, arguably one of the most tragic of British marketing attempts to crack the American market, thus the name. Hopefully, it's the only one left in NZ. So if you are interested, check your emails and ring Brian at 027 4376073.

The Beattie LT16 is for sale. It's a new build, completed in the last twelve months as a tribute to the quintessential front engine Formula car of the 1950's. Beautifully designed and built, it's a stunning looking car, race proven and competitive in Historic fields. Has NZ MotorSport and VCC Logbooks. Featured in Jan -Feb edition of Classic Driver. Contact Brian at 027 2855156 for more information.



Future Events

Hawkswood , 12th of November.

Note change of date from the 5th.

For those that aren't aware, Hawkswood is an area north of Cheviot where a sprint on a sealed and closed bit of the old SH1 is held. It's run by the Country Gents Motoring Club, our branch and RATEC, (Rallies and Trials Enthusiasts Club). There are certain rules and regulations in terms of eligibility, so if you are interested, contact Tracey our secretary to find out the details. It's also a great spectator event, with some of the cars in the paddock even more impressive than the entrants. It's a few km north of Cheviot on SH1, and is clearly signposted, so do come along and enjoy a very entertaining day. The local Lions club do a Sausage Sizzle too. We've got quite a good field of VCC cars entering, including the Des Ward's A35, one of the great old saloon racers of The Good Old Days.

Rallye Monte Carlo, Show Weekend 17th – 19th of November.

With thirty nine cars entered, this will be our greatest Monte yet, so competition will be intense, both in the actual driving part and especially the Concours de Confort, where bribery is a good deal more obvious and indeed welcomed. With twenty British cars entered, you might presume that one will win, but they are all reliant on Lucas, Prince of Darkness, and as they will be driving at night, there will be equipment failures. There are seven large American leviathans, four superior French cars, three temperamental Italian steeds, two highly efficient German cars, two Aussie grunTERS, and a nimble little Japanese coupe. Team wise, we have The Stiff Upper Lips, That 70's Show, Team AC, The Model A's and a team from Dunedin who can't seem to think of a name. The Dullards? Needless to say, the inspection check will focus strongly on headlight bulbs, but as there are no Minis entered, the French contingent will need to think of another creative way of winning. The Gaiety Theatre will be packed, so get there early. New entrants, remember the dress code, as standards are very high. Andrew McGuire, a sartorial purist, nearly threw me in the harbour one year because I had on brown RM Williams boots with a black dinner suit. Andrew, a muscular sort of chap, has entered.....

The Windsor Rally, Oamaru, 3rd of December.

For more details, windsorrally@gmail.com.

National Veteran Rally, Dunedin 25th – 29th January 2024

Contact Trevor Kempton at natvet2024@gmail.com

National Vintage Only Rally, 5 -7th of February 2024, Blenheim.

Contact marlborough@vcc.org.nz for more details

The Pomeroy Trophy, 10th of January 2024, Ruapuna.

Entry forms will be sent out to previous entrants, but if you haven't entered before, contact Tracey for details.

Can "the shoddiest car ever built", the Jenson-Healey, in the hands of the strong silent Mike Crehan, win again? Or will he be pipped at the post by the "tail heavy, noisy, slow, fragile, leaky" De Lorean? The gull wing doors on the De Loreans had dodgy electrics, so occupants were often forced to climb out through the rear hatch. Perhaps Jared can show us how it's done. But do put the date in your calendar and come along and support what is one of our great events. Our recent members' survey indicated that the competitive events were the ones that were popular, so come along. And do remember that the two regulation size suitcases that some of you are so fond of need to fit in the boot or on a luggage rack. Not in a slot behind the seat or on the passenger's seat. And it doesn't matter what they do in dear old Blighty, you're in NZ now. As the Official Suitcase Monitor, I look forward to applying the rules with considerable zeal.

Past Events.

Wigram Revival, Ruapuna.

A field of quality not quantity featured in the VCC class this year. As usual, Tracey and Mark Barrett in their Lotus 23s battled throughout the weekend to see who had to do the dishes when they got home, and although Mark did win more races, he did manage to spin on the warm up lap in one race, thus giving Tracey the moral victory. Mark now realises that engaging first gear at the hairpin and then applying maximum revs is a recipe for disaster. Tracey seems to be much better at recipes, as she made Mark a splendid birthday cake which he shared with his adoring fans. His PR department said that they were unable to confirm his actual age due to commercial sensitivity, but under relentless questioning from the editor, agreed that it might in fact end in a 0.



Happy 40 /50 /60/70/80 birthday??? You decide..

Paul Coory came up from Dunedin in the very potent CAE Chev Sprinter and was so overwhelmed by the occasion that in one race he thought he'd go to the front of the grid and start in the middle of the front two cars. A cunning plan, but alas, the marshalls spotted it straight away and put him in his place in every sense. Paul had a great battle with Graham Hamilton in the ACE 111 and Kent Larsen in the E Type, this time without the spoiler. The three of them displayed skilled and close driving all weekend, with Bryan Ashworth in the Daimler SP250 snapping at their heels. Bill Cowie broke an axle in the Spanganelli Holden for about the fourth time, so is contemplating a more permanent solution. Brian Smith and Digby Gemmell showed skilled barbeque driving skills at the end of each days racing, something that's certainly appreciated by drivers and pit crew.



BANKS PENINSULA



CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RACE SERIES POINTS TABLE 2023/24

ROUND FOUR - WIGRAM REVIVAL RACE MEETING, RUAPUNA 27-29/10/23

CLASS	RATING	NAME	VEHICLE	EVENT PTS	*POSITION	*OVERALL
Class A	2500cc - over	Graeme Hamilton	ACE III	150	4	9
		Paul Coory	CAE Chev Sprinter	150	1	3
		Kent Larsen	E Type Jaguar	120	5	11
		Bill Cowie	Spangarelli Holden	55	3	5
		*Stephen Aldersley	C Type Jaguar	-	2	6
Class B	1501-2500cc	Tracey Barrett	Lotus 23C Replica	170	1	1=
		Brian Ashworth	Daimler SP250	140	2	4
		John McDonagh	Mistral	95	5	15
		Tony Steer	MGB Roadster	80	7	17
		Don Ammon	Vanguard 6 Special	55	8	18
		*Phil Thomson	Daimler Special	-	3=	11=
		*Colin Hey	Wolseley 1800	-	3=	11=
		*Chris Read	Mistral TR3A	-	4	14
		*David Clearwater	Furore II	-	6	16
Class C	0 - 1500cc	Paul Tayler	Mistral	190	2	7
		Mark Barrett	Lotus 23B Replica	170	1	=1
		Greg Noller	MGA	140	4	10
		Maureen Cowie	Shadetree Special II	65	5	=18
		*Don Gerrard	Mistral	-	3	8

FASTEST LAP of day:

Mark Barrett 1.40.743

*Incl. points from previous rounds

Entries out now for:

ROUND FIVE - Hawkswood Hillclimb 12/11/23