



North Shore  
Vintage and  
Classic Car Club

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# Progress:

The monthly journal of the  
North Shore  
Vintage and Classic Car Club  
December 2022



Hi all, we have a bumper edition this month, with some fabulous articles, rally reports and photos. Thanks to all contributors. As usual there will be no Progress magazine in January, which is probably a good thing as our daughter and family from the UK arrive just after Christmas for a 6 week stay.

There are a number of social and celebratory events organised over the next three months so please check our Upcoming Events page and mark your diaries.

In light of a recent destructive fire at the Marlborough Branch Spares Shed and the greater visibility of our buildings from the new bus lanes, we are starting to implement a series of major projects to improve the security of our premises. We plan to install new, more robust door locks on all our buildings, a new internet based camera/security system throughout and master power switches in all sheds. (The disastrous Marlborough fire was triggered by a faulty power socket). Also, as mentioned in the previous edition of Progress, we will have to consider some sort of powered ventilation system in the garage shed and the museum, sooner rather than later.

The new smart TV and carpets will be fitted in the club rooms by December 7th. Lots going on. Oh and we have a new screwdriver set in the restoration shed, having thrown out at least 75% of the old useless ones.

May I take this opportunity to thank each and every one that has contributed the the magazine over 2022. Without your support there would be no magazine. Finally I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Stuart Battersby: [battersby56nz@gmail.com](mailto:battersby56nz@gmail.com):

### In this edition:

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*Our firetruck bringing Christmas cheer.*

# Chairman's Report: Tony Sparkes

November 2022

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Another year nearly done and dusted. By the time you read this, it will be December and you are officially allowed to put up your Christmas tree. Let's hope that this month will be a bit drier than the last, I keep telling the weather gods the water tanks are full already. We had a good turn out for the Northaven Rest home visit with 9 or 10 cars there. The staff and residents all enjoyed the visit and we had a good morning tea. Thanks to all who got their cars out. It was good to see the hermit Jim Drummond in his Chevrolet, we miss his good natured, if somewhat colourful, banter at the club. Mike Swanton hosted a club run, with about 30 members attending. John Castle put on the apron for the barbie and he received some positive feedback. Well done to those people, organisers don't always get thanked for their efforts.

The inside of the villa is looking very smart and the carpet goes down on the 7<sup>th</sup> of this month. I'd like to thank Peter Lloyd for organising this transformation. It takes a lot of time getting quotes and then getting things done up to standard.

Andrew Lunt invited a battery specialist to make a presentation on a Wednesday club night. It attracted a good crowd and all learned a few things. I'm sure that Andrew would welcome suggestions for future club nights.

The fire engine is still not running consistently well and has been diagnosed as having worn piston rings. This will require an engine out rebuild in the near future. For the moment, however, drivers will be carrying a spare set of plugs to put in when the others get oiled up. The Bedford truck, however, is running very sweetly and it's wiring is nearly complete.

The last Thursday morning at the club will be the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be having a BBQ at lunchtime, all are welcome including partners. However, please let us know if you are not a regular attendee or if your partner is coming to help us for catering numbers. We will be opening up on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> of January.

Dates are set for next year's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of this branch of the VCC and I'm sure that we will have a couple of great events.

That's about it for this year from me. I hope you all have a pleasant and safe Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in 2023.

Stay safe and look after yourselves.

Tony Sparkes

Chairman

Phone: 027-499-5588 Email: 29tony66@gmail.com

Friday evening is dinner at the Manu Road club rooms; a substantial buffet.

Saturday dawns clear after torrential rain on Thursday and Friday. 9:00am start and the first stop is the Wairua Falls that look angry and menacing. Quite a sight.

The next stop is a visit to the Parakao Store which houses so many old wrecks, including a 27 hp 1933 Vauxhall Cadet that the owner has just acquired from Noel Shaw, and is hoping to rebuild. (The Cadet is on the right)



*Wairua Falls in flood (by state highway 15)*



The number of old V8 engines in the garage area is also remarkable.

Our route takes us through Kaikohe and around Lake Omapere, on Lake Road which itself is not a great option, to come out on state highway 1 at Okaihau, high on the hill ridge. With the Mangamuka Gorge road closed, the traffic on state highway 1 is very light.



We follow two Model Ts down the hill and on towards the gorge. Right turn on the country road signposted to Otangaroa, then left on the "track" to Fern Flat. Now that road says that the school bus uses that track! I'm so glad we didn't meet any oncoming traffic because it is very narrow, windy, sometimes washed out, and rutted. North to Taipa to meet state highway 10 and a visit to the Far North club rooms and their spare parts - very convivial club members.

# 2022 Far North Tour: Cont.

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We stay at the Driftwood Waterfront Motel in Cable Bay and the view from our front lawn is the beach. Very restful.

In the morning we fill up with 91 and drive up to Cape Reinga. The road is sealed, a better surface than I remember, and the drive is thoroughly rewarding. Just keep off the heavily rutted side roads, like the metal road to Spirits Bay!



*Three shots of the tourists at the Parakao store*

The lovely view of Cape Maria Van Diemen on your left is your first real view of the top of the island. That big sweep of wind blown beach is eye catching.



Then the formal car park gives out onto a well made walk to the lighthouse. I am hearing different languages being used, including French. The views of the angry sea off the



lighthouse give me an image of early sailors bravely trying to navigate around the dangerous waters of the Cape.

We leave Cape Reinga and drive a kilometre or two out to Tapotupotu Bay (that is sheltered from any southerly blow) to enjoy a picnic. The day has been magic!



Our drive back down the peninsula passes the myriad of avocado orchards and their hideous pine tree wind-breaks. It will take them years to realise their mistake and meanwhile the windblown pine tree seedlings will start to dominate those sandy soils and change the environment for ever.

At our Driftwood Waterfront Motel we make up a scratch dinner from the great pies that are sold nearby and sit on the deck by the beach. A couple in another unit call us over to join them. They are Ray (Chairman of the Northland VCC) and Gill Sanders.

To cut a long story short, it turns out that my wife and Ray Sander's wife are long lost direct cousins. What an amazing coincidence and a great way to make a family connection.

This was our third Far North Tour and it was thoroughly enjoyable.



*Cape Maria Van Diemen.*



*The Lighthouse at Cape Reinga.*



*I do hope that the Far North Tour recognised and appreciated Andrew Lunt's window cleaning a few weeks prior to your visit.*



*Northwards from the Lighthouse.*

# Wall to wall Vauxhalls: Bill Duffy reports of the club run and BBQ at the Swantons' estate.

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This was a very successful and enjoyable run despite having some very heavy, squally rain showers. The forecast was for thunder showers right from when we all left the clubrooms.

30 people with 13 cars participated.

Peter Lloyd put together an easy to follow, 1 hour rally, which took us on quiet country roads and through the recent Mildale subdivision, around Wainui and Waitoki to finally arrive at the venue in Horseshoe Bush Road.

Our hosts were Michael and Christine Swanton. Michael has an interesting collection of 8 Vauxhalls ranging from a superb 1925 luxury sedan through to 1940s models. Vauxhall was taken over By GM in 1925 but continued production in the U.K. He has 3, 1937 cars which are not unlike the Chev's of the same era. The likeness being because some body panels came from America but from the front view they have an attractive bonnet and grill with the trademark Vauxhall flutings which identified them right from 1903 through to the mid 1950s. They also have 3.5 litre, 6 cylinder OHV Bedford engines, British instrumentation, and leather upholstery.

While the men were admiring the cars, Christine took the ladies on a tour of her extensive gardens, representing 20 years of development to her credit. Fortunately the rain showers didn't spoil the day and we all enjoyed John Castle's BBQ'd "real" sausages undercover in the large garage housing the other 4 smaller, later cars. Our kind hosts would like us back for possibly a Posh picnic some time! Bill Duffy.



*Attention grabbing 1937 GY*



*Mike and Christine under the BBQ Gazebo*



*Picnic with the cars!*



As part of our strategic plan you may recall that Wednesday Club Nights were high on the list and “In need of Improvement” and the committee are delighted that Andrew Lunt has picked up the baton and is organising at least one ‘keynote’ event each month. In November we had a very interesting presentation on vehicle batteries (hugely informative) and in December we have booked a representative from Meguiar’s on their products. As with batteries over past 5 years car-care technology has advanced beyond recognition so make sure you get along on **Wednesday December 7th at 7.30 prompt** to hear all the news.

Andrew has written a short update on the Battery event as follows:

*“Following a few dates where the Battery presentation evening was cancelled, due to the club room renovations, finally the planets aligned for the 9<sup>th</sup> of November. A nice sunny evening assisted with a great turnout of around 25 members all keen to hear from Bruce Strang, Sales Manager at HBC Technologies.*

*Now I thought I knew a few things about batteries, like if its flat charge it, if it wont charge replace if. How wrong I could be! I didn’t know the half of it. Bruce certainly rolled out the history of his involvement in the industry and how batteries have changed over the years. 6 volt, 12 volt, different types and applications. What’s good for them and what’s bad, best applications and the right type for the job it’s expected to do. He is a wealth of knowledge and is more than happy to assist club members with their battery concerns.*

*One good learning I took away from the night was to switch off my charger at the wall and disconnect it before removal of the leads, and also doing the same before popping onto a battery to charge. Turns out those gasses from a battery can ignite with a spark, and one can lose their eyebrows or worse if things go south!*

*He had a few good props to show the inner workings of the batteries and also had a series of informative documents, which were handed out on the night. We have provided these documents as PDF’s on our web site under a new tab “technical notes” <https://www.northshorevcc.com/technical-notes-and-information> which is a great place to have a look around at information. Please note we will add to this over time to include all sorts of good and handy information to assist with your cars.*

*Bruce was more than happy to answer club members questions on the night and after a good couple of hours a cup of tea was had by all.*

Finally our new 65in TV is on order and should be installed in the next week or so. This will give us access to a huge online selection of videos on restoration techniques, rallies and tours as well as a range of entertaining historical movies and newsreels.

# Black Twuck and The Irishman: Terry Costello continues the story of the Jack Daniels Model A.

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TC wrote a lovely story covering our truck in the newsletter a month or so back – it is fair to say we had quite a few laughs while on the restoration/rebuild and the 2022 Irishman's rally was always a must do after we had borrowed Elsie for our first Irishman's rally in 2021 – we had a ball doing that and resolved we should repeat it. The Black Twuck with its Wheely Beige wheels, plenty of dry & well lit storage, a warm draught free cab with dual coat hangers and the benefits of higher horsepower and the overdrive ticked all the boxes.

June 2022 we headed south, we opted to trailer to Wellington, drive onto the ferry and then down to Chch where the rally was to start. So, Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, off to Taihape where we hold special memories of a couple of nights in the world famous Gretna Hotel, Highland Flinging. Feeling adventurous we now opted to stay at the Rusty Nail backpackers!! Wednesday en-route south we had a bit of time to spare so a visit was made to Murray Horn's workshop of repute and special engineering in Levin. We had a look at some of his work in progress and dropped off some pickled onions. We drove then to Murray's brother, Ivan's place: sheds full of A's T's and other stuff. We powered into Wellington via the new Trans Gully highway as we unloaded the Black Twuck it was blowing like hell with hail, rain, thunder, lightning with some pestilence tossed in. It was also seriously cold! Several other Irishman entrants were at the same motel.

Thursday morn - onto the early ferry and a chance to have a chat to the other guys from Auckland. A flat crossing, a pie in Blenheim and then down the track to Kaikoura where we stayed at the Pier Hotel. Then off to Chch the next morning where we delivered some Mod A parts, collected our rally data, there was no natter due to covid so an early night - only to be woken by some balloon thinking we were in his room, not staying there again!



*Our lodgings in Kaikoura. Excellent tucker too !!*

Saturday morning in the dark at Cutler Park and off we went. The rally instructions were given as we left the grounds and it was onto the Waimak River flood banks over the bridge and then head west up river, across a couple of slippery farm slopes – at the Waimak Gorge region an hour or so later we hit water, perhaps a tad too fast and without a drop screen on the radiator also missing engine pans and it proved a tad too deep! Out of the stream on two cylinders. I lifted the bonnet to give the engine a chance to dry off, gave the engine a rev or two and the noises were terrible.

# Black Twuck and The Irishman: Cont.

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My jaw hit the floor; an engine with virtually no miles on the clock was banging severely when revved and we could not decide what was the cause. I figured we would be lucky to get to Fairlie and back to Wellington. Plan B was to miss the Porters Pass section and take it very easy on the lower roads to Fairlie. We ran for a while and then stopped for a lunch break. Still down in the mouth with engine noises we gave it another rev up, blow me down....no bangs! This made us think the noise was caused by water of which there was a fair amount in the Weber air cleaner element being drawn into the cylinders and exploding under combustion temperature and the resultant steam causing severe banging! We finished lunch a whole lot happier and away to Fairlie where a good catch up in the pub was had!



*Waterfall Creek is way up there!*

Sunday morn was cold but dry with a very lean wind. We drove to Tekapo where all cars parked up and then it was into NZ Army grounds and then onto farm tracks over tussock territory and back onto farm tracks to Waterfall Creek; not on a map but I reckon about 10 miles due east of Mt Cook in the middle of nowhere. Stunning country!

We passed a lot of traps on the cross country tracks; the odd one occupied with feral cats! I side with Forest & Bird on that subject. After our lunch break it was back down the valley via farm roads and onto the highway to Fairlie and onto Pete's Patch for the catchup and prizegiving with a lovely big bonfire to heat the bones. We stayed Sunday evening in the pub, but we regretted this later.

Monday morning and back to Chch. We visited Dave Rees, picked up a Laycock on the way out of town, up to Kaikaoua to the same pub, Tuesday breakfast at Bernie's Diner. A good brekky was had and a look thru Bernie's very nice collection of classics. Then up to Picton for a flat trip to Wellington where we loaded back onto the trailer for an early start. The next morning we headed north and it seemed that both of us had run out of conversation as the day wore on. We arrived back in Alk and did the old covid test and yes we both had it Sunday evening at the pub in Fairlie had a result!! Not the one we wanted !!

Moral of the story is: We built the Black Twuck with Covid restrictions all around, we enjoyed the rally and will do more of them, highly probable we will fit engine side pans too! We may miss on Sunday evenings at the pub not good for the health!

# Reciprocal visit to Waikato VCC workshop:

Richard Bampton reports.

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I was fortunate to visit the Waikato VAR workshop recently.

Our members (well, those of them who still retain any memory) will recall a visit by some Waikato chaps, in February 2020, to investigate what North Shore were up to with their restoration shed. Remarkably, because it is not possible that they would have learnt anything from us since we do very little and what little we do is very slow, they were obviously easily impressed because they have built and commissioned their own workshop.

It is a good 2-bay shed with a 4-post hoist and room for other vehicles to be worked on. Currently they are building up a previously dismantled vivid green Mini and working on an early (and, for an American car, rather nice) Studebaker. As the photo shows they are a welcoming and happy bunch.

They obviously learned something from us - we did show them how to put on a really good smoko as the tea/coffee and cakes/biscuits on offer at the clubrooms after their Swap Meet demonstrated.



*The new Waikato restoration shed. These two gents surely cannot be laughing at Richard's jokes?*

# Chartered accountants and cars: Marsden

Robinson gives us a warning.

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My 1951 Morgan Plus 4 was retrofitted with front disk brakes by a previous owner, and years ago when I was racing the car I added a split system with a remote booster for the front brakes. Recently the brakes weren't working very well – in fact not even well enough to switch the stop lights on, so an overhaul was indicated. I stripped the system, sent the callipers to a brake shop, re-kitted the booster and bought a new master cylinder.

Reassembled, the brakes bled perfectly. But when I did a road test the pedal went to the floor. I bled the brakes again – perfect, no air. But still the pedal went to the floor. I got the booster tested by the brake guys, blew the lines out with compressed air, and dismantled the new master cylinder. No problems anywhere. Bled the system again – solid fluid all the way. But still no brakes. Consulted various experts but no-one could suggest a reason. Bled again. No pedal.

It took a month to solve the problem. Bleeding yet again (the tenth time at least) by pure luck I noticed that on each calliper the bleed nipple was below the flexible supply hose. Reason: I had fitted the left calliper on the right, and *vice versa*. Well they weren't marked LEFT and RIGHT. Not even DEBIT and CREDIT for Chartered Accountants. Nor even PORT and STARBOARD for boaties.

I swapped them over, bled them again, and now I have excellent brakes.

The moral of this story is: **NEVER LET A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT TOUCH YOUR CAR.**

In fact don't even let him in your garage.

PS. Save your marriage by single-handed brake bleeding. Get a spare cap for your reservoir, fit an ordinary compressed-air union, and turn your air-compressor down to 4 pounds psi, or .3 bar. Brake bleeding without assistance will then be a dream provided, that is, that you haven't got the callipers on the wrong sides. (*Editor: Interesting Marsden; the interchange between Helen and me "Three times and hold down", "Can I let go now?", "Blast! Now I've dropped the spanner", etc would make a great comedy skit in its own right*)



*Left: Terry Flude on Bedford Wiring.*

*Right: Colin Austin on BSA Radiator Surround repair.*



# Northaven Rest Home Visit: photos from 12 November 2022.

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*Anyone would think we were a Daimler club!*



*Citroen Traction Avant, Ford V8 and Dodge Charger.*



*Jim Drummond allowed me to park next to the Chev. Allan Woolf's Mini Cooper.*



*Allan taking a breather on the steps of Colin Austin's V8 Ford, Arnold van Zon's Packard keeps a wary eye over Andrew Lunt's Charger, French elegance and quirky design in the Citroen cabin.*



# Orewa Christmas Parade: Photos and text from Richard Bampton.

What a good turnout! Supporting Couldrey House, where we are always welcomed for our picnics, North Shore provided a great cavalcade of 8 cars and the Fire Engine for the Orewa Santa Parade. In surprisingly good weather the 1934 Chevrolet Fire Tender, crowded with Couldrey House volunteers led the procession, followed by Peter Lloyd's Model T Truck. Next came the Essex belonging to Peter and Barbara Stubbs followed by the Ford Model A men Bill Duffy and John Castle in Bill's Model A the two Austins belonging to Bruce Adin preceded the Vauxhall Stratford Sports of Mike Swanton and the the club's Morris 8, driven by Barry Thomson and finally the very smart Phil Smith's Jelly-Mould Buick on its way back from a wedding. The cheering crowd clearly appreciated the Fire Tender's siren and the Oogah horns of the vintage vehicles. Couldrey House very much appreciated our support.



*The crowds were delighted with the two Fords on parade.*



*Peter Lloyd's Model T truck.*



*Barb and Pete Stubbs in the rally- proven Essex.*



*Barry Thomson with grandchildren.*

# Orewa Christmas Parade: Cont.

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When I told the Couldry representative that we did it as a thank-you for being allowed to picnic in their Wenderholm garden I was told “You are always welcome at any time”.

There were no MGs present. Further down the line, supporting the Silverdale Pioneer Village, were a trio of Austins – a Chummy and early 10 belonging to Peter Odendaal and Alan Lorenzen’s Big 7. This meant that the most popular marque at the Santa Parade was .....

*Austin*



*RA couple of...err ... Austins*



*A very cute Austin 7 Chummy.*

On a final comment, the fire truck, despite fouled plugs, made it back to the club. The Morris unfortunately did **not** and needed a tow from the motorway off ramp!



*I'm not entirely sure what Bill Duffy is pouring into Mike Swanton' Vauxhall.*



*Phil Smith (this time without Flash Gordon's raygun) and his glorious Buick.*



*Bill Duffy on a precarious perch.. Ouch!*

# Upcoming Events: Events through to Christmas.

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Please drop us a note if you know of an event that might be of interest to our members. Remember that **North Shore Branch events are in RED**, whilst other branch and private events are in our usual blue font.

## December

**December 7th: 7.30 Wednesday club-night.** Meguiars Car Care Presentation.

**December 10: Mairangi Bay Santa parade:** Contact John Castle 021 957 032.

**December 18th:** Christmas Gymkhana at 3pm followed by 'Bring a Plate' Christmas celebration at 5pm.

**December 22: M.O.A.S** (Mother Of All Smokos) Last Thursday before Christmas. Christmas celebration and car show. Smoko and workshops closedown will be at 11.30. Bring your cars, picnic chairs and the tittle of your choice. The club will provide burgers, eggs etc. We've had a great year so let's get as many members and their cars down for one final time in 2022. **The more the merrier, but to help us with catering numbers, if you are NOT a regular attendee at Thursday Smoko please contact us beforehand.**

## Future Events:

**Brits at the Beach:** Whangamata, February 10-12: [www.britsatthebeach.co.nz](http://www.britsatthebeach.co.nz)

**Summer Serenade:** Jazz in the park at Couldry House: March 4: [www.eventfinder.co.nz](http://www.eventfinder.co.nz)

**British and Euro Show:** Loyd Elsmore Park, Pakuranga: March 5: [www.briteurocarshow.nz](http://www.briteurocarshow.nz)

**NSVCC 50th Anniversary Events: We will be organising TWO events.**

- 1. March 19 2023: Club Open Day and Anniversary Rally.** A short Run/Rally organised by Paul Collins for all VCC Members AND an open invitation to all local car and hot rod clubs to come to Masons Road, display their vehicles and tour our sheds.
- 2. April 29th: Formal Anniversary Dinner** for all current and past members.

## Regular Diary

**Committee Meetings:** Last Monday of every month, 6.00pm.

**Tuesday Mornings:** Restoration shed open. Coffee and tea around 10 - ish.

**Wednesday Evenings:** Club night. Coffee, tea and banter, 7.30pm

**Thursday Mornings:** All sheds open. Why not come along and explore the parts shed? Fantastic experience, even if you don't need any bits! Coffee, tea, cakes and savouries at 10.30am.

The club fully supports the latest government guidelines on Covid and your personal protection. Members are asked to ensure their own safety and respect the choices of others as remains in our community.

# Visit to the Swantons': host Mike Swanton gives his report.

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Yesterday's Club visit was a very convivial occasion. The heavy showers made things difficult and my Vauxhalls stayed in their garages.

At least I was able to talk to my next restoration project, an English built Vauxhall 25, model GY, that I displayed in its partly completed form. I parked it next to my New Zealand built Vauxhall 25, model GY, and my Australian Holden built, Vauxhall 25, model GY, to illustrate the different characteristics of these cars.

John Castle organised a very successful BBQ under a gazebo and everyone enjoyed the social occasion.

I think Christine's gardens were just stunning so I took these images that you might like for our Progress magazine.

Mike



# Hudson, Essex, Terraplane Tour and Mount Cook Rally: Barb Stubbs diary of the trip.

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**DAY 1 – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** A group of 5 cars left Upper Hutt around 6am for the Bluebridge Ferry leaving Wellington at 8.15am. A stunning day, not a cloud in the sky and smooth sailing. After arriving in Picton we visited the restoration progress of the convict/immigrant ship the Edwin Fox which was built in Calcutta, India in 1853. Drove on to Blenheim for the night with dinner at the Grove Hotel A long day for all of us so an early night was welcomed as we start the next day at 6.30.



**DAY 2 – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** We met up with the rest of the “tour party” at the Blenheim Railway Station. Great to catch up with everyone as most of us hadn’t seen each other for almost 2 years. Left Blenheim for Cheviot with a compulsory stop at Kekerengu for their famous seafood chowder. Past Kekerengu, we all stopped at the seal colony at Ohau – loads of babies with their parents and they were either sunning themselves or swimming in the little water pools. A beautiful drive through to Cheviot where we are all booked in for the night with dinner at the local hotel. Happy Hour is compulsory at every overnight stop at 5.30!!!

**DAY 3 – 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Beautiful day in Cheviot. The expected temperature is 20C. Who needs an alarm clock when you have peacocks starting their day (and yours) at 4.00am! Ready for departure at 8.30 on one of the best roads in the country! Taking the back road from Cheviot to Oxford was stunning; dusty and full of gouges in the road with a few fords to go through too. A couple of gates to open and close but that’s all part of the fun! We had a couple of stops on our way to Culverden where we had lunch and a look around. Now in Oxford with only one hiccup – the 4 door Dodge broke down with gear box issues, but all fixed now and we’re waiting for everyone to assemble for happy hour at 5.30 p.m. Dinner is at the Working Men’s Club at 6.30.



**DAY 4 – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022:** Oxford to Geraldine via the scenic route with a stop for morning tea. What started out to be a cloudy and cool morning turned into a beautiful sunny day. Compulsory petrol stop in Geraldine with a look at the shops and lunch. Geraldine to Timaru – long queues of traffic was a nightmare, but we did stop the traffic at one stage so all 12 cars could stay in line. All the traffic waved as they went past: these old cars sure know how to draw the crowds. From Oxford to Geraldine we went through some great country roads (a lot of them gravel, including a magnificent beech tree glade) and as we crossed the Waimakariri River we spotted a couple of helicopters filming 3 racing jet boats – quite spectacular. We also crossed the Rakaia, Hakatere, Rangitata and Orari Rivers. Timaru Top 10 tonight and meeting here for departure to the VCC Club at 9 a.m. for briefing and the start of our rally to Twizel.

**DAY 5 – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022:** Timaru to Twizel and the start of the Mt Cook Rally. We had morning tea at the VCC rooms in Timaru before taking off for the back roads through to Waimate where we stopped for lunch. Absolutely amazing scenery and gravel roads. Stunning day – cool to start but hot by the time we got to Kurow (Richie McCaw country). The roads have been fantastic and directions great. From Kurow we followed on long straight roads through Otematata and ending at Omarama. A long drive (about 8 hours) including some stops for a break or two. All in all an absolutely fantastic day, meeting new people and seeing new/old cars.

**DAY 6 – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022:** Twizel to Mt Cook:  
Spectacular morning and what a day for us to travel from Twizel to Mt Cook. The day was warm and got hotter as the day wore on. Absolutely amazing scenery with the mountain and surrounds glistening in the sunshine. Had a picnic lunch just below the Hermitage and collected our plaque from the Hermitage, along with all the other participants and their amazing collection of cars – and one motor bike!! Super, super day, but we still have dinner to come. Tomorrow we head towards Methven.



**Day 7 – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Twizel to Methven: Today's a bit miserable; overcast, cool and the forecast is for rain and getting worse. We left Twizel just after 8.30 a.m. for Methven. We met the wind a little while later and it was miserable. Loads of traffic coming back from the long weekend – boats, campers and cars and caravans so we had to pull over frequently so they could all pass. (I might add there were 11 of us but well spaced). First stop was Fairlie where we had to stop and buy a pie from the renowned bakery. From Fairlie we stuck mostly to the main road as the temperature dropped – stopped briefly at Geraldine but it was too cold, so we carried on with a smallish detour until we arrived at Methven.

**DAY 8 – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Methven to Greymouth:  
Woke up to an overcast morning but with no rain. We left Methven at 8.30a.m. hoping to do all the back roads but the rain started falling and the further we went towards Arthur's Pass, the heavier it got. The gravel roads were extremely corrugated but fantastic views the higher we went. Coming through to Arthur's Pass the temperature dropped to 2C and it started to snow a little. Arthur's Pass was gorgeous – little flurries of snow with the trees and ground covered in snow. Didn't do any more of the back roads as the weather was too bad, so drove straight through to Greymouth where we have a two night stay and time to relax and unwind a little.



**DAY 9 – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Greymouth: Today is a rest day – bucketing down in the morning but fine and very cloudy in the afternoon. The afternoon was taken up with the boys tinkering with the cars and some of the girls went into the big city of Greymouth! Dinner tonight was at Monteiths Brewery where we had a sumptuous meal – all meals arriving at the same time. Fabulous service and fabulous food.

**DAY 10 – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Greymouth to Murchison: Well, a fine day dawned this morning and we departed the Top 10 at 8.30 for Murchison.

We crossed the Grey River and headed towards Taylorville, Blackball, Ikamatua and stopping at Reefton for morning coffee. Next stop was Springs Junction for gas and food. From Springs Junction some of us did the Maruia Saddle Road (6 cars only) but what a magnificent road! No seal, just winding, gravel and very narrow, but what an amazing road. Its 7kms to the saddle which rises to 580 metres.

**Day 11 – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Murchison – Richmond, Nelson: Departing from the main road at 8.30am for the Mangles Valley and Lake Rotoroa. The lake is renowned for its swarms of sandflies that aren't at all fussy who they attack. Even with repellent, they don't care, so our stop was relatively short! One of our cars had it's second puncture; this time as it went over a ford (the tube was \$100) so we ended up around the corner from the lake for a

little longer but away from the sandflies. Magnificent scenery and gravel roads better than Auckland roads, winding through beautiful black beech forestry and onto yet another back road towards St Arnaud and Lake Rotoiti and its famous eels. Back on the road again for Richmond where we're staying for 2 nights, travelling through much forestry felling and onto hops country where they was growing everywhere. We then hit the main road for our motel and ready for our 50<sup>th</sup> AGM in Richmond. Our Nog'n'Natter was held at the Waimea Club from 6-8.30 where about 100 fellow club members were catching up after at least a year and for some as much as 3 years. So great to see everyone again and the noise level rose accordingly!

**DAY 12 – 29<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Nelson: Happily based in Richmond for another night – it was a relatively quiet day with a shortish but great run from Richmond to Tapawera, Wakefield and back to Richmond. Mostly sealed roads but one was very rough, gravel and dry mud, but challenging. The cloud was so low when we climbed Spooner's Hill we had no idea what the view was below, but I'm sure it would have been amazing!



**DAY 13 – 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022:** Richmond to Havelock: We met everyone at the Club Waimea for a swap meet at 10.00am before the 50<sup>th</sup> AGM at 10.30am. All went according to plan and the meeting concluded at 12.15pm with a light lunch being served. From Richmond we drove through the outskirts of Nelson and stopped at the Pelorus Bridge Café and a look over the bridge to the river – a great sight. From there we meandered on to Havelock where we're booked into the Havelock Garden Motel for the night.



*That the way to take a photo!*

**DAY 14 – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022:** Havelock to Picton and Wellington. A text message was received at 5.45am “Bluebridge sailing cancelled” so we had to rebook on the Interislander – booking 5 cars was no easy feat! Travelling from Havelock to Picton we left just before 10am for our short and last drive in the South Island before catching the ferry which was leaving at 6.30pm. We had loads of time before embarking, had a very smooth sailing, arriving in Wellington about 10.40pm but didn't disembark until approx. 11.20pm then back to Upper Hutt for a cuppa, hot toddy for some and a well-earned rest for the night.

An absolutely SUPERB couple of weeks away, on another fantastic little tour organised by Phil Kidd with a wonderful bunch of like minded travel and car enthusiasts who all got on so well.

Mighty big thanks to Phil for this trip as the organising of it took not just a few days or weeks, but months and those of us who went are all very grateful to him for the fun times we had. Approximate mileage from Wellington and back to Upper Hutt 1,370 Miles or 2,190 kms - a great effort for these old cars!!



*Pete Stubbs in the Essex a few weeks before the momentous tour.*



Here are a few old photographs of our old Dennis Bus. John Higham found these great shots whilst rummaging through his cupboards. Just so that we appreciate the work and skills required to get to our current state. We still need someone to spend a little time wiping the black mildew off the woodwork though. Anyone please?

**New Members:** Nil

- **Christmas Function:** A Christmas BYO function will be held on Sunday 18 December 2022. Dinner 5.00 p.m. bring a plate. A car event will be held on the field commencing about 3.00 p.m.
- **MOAS:** Mother of all Smokos: 11.30am Thursday 22 December
- **Security:** A security expert has been consulted regarding club updates, including possible installation of dead locks.
- **Carpet:** Wednesday 7 December 2022 will be laid. Tables to be moved
- **Fence repairs:** Northern Alliance have stated that the fence repairs have been carried out. All approved.
- **Fire alarms:** Spares, garage and 5 bay sheds. All need to have a single isolating switch to turn off all power, as per the restoration shed.
- **New TV:** Has been purchased and awaiting delivery later this week. Need to check WiFi connect to Freeview.
- **50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations:** Dates being finalized for 19 March 2023 for a car run and open day with 28 April 2023 being the formal dinner which will be a chargeable event open to members and invitees.
- **Fire Engine:** Bearings have been done. It seems the rings now need to be done, just carry spare spark plugs in the meantime.
- **Gate construction:** An new gate is being proposed for the lower car park entrance off the new car parking area.



*Terry Flude relaxing in a well earned moment as the Bedford Truck purrs following a full re-wire and carburettor service.*

# About Us

Progress  
December 2022

**Club Address:** 40 Masons Rd, Albany, 0632

**Phone:** 09-4792779: **email:** [northshorevcc@gmail.com](mailto:northshorevcc@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.northshorevcc.com](http://www.northshorevcc.com)

**Club Nights:** Every Wednesday from 7.30pm.

**Restoration Shed:** Every Tuesday & Thursday morning 9am - 12pm.

**Committee Meetings:** Last Monday of the month, 6.00pm.

**Club Runs:** Normally 12.30-1pm start, 3rd Sun. of month. Always check the 'Upcoming events'.

**VERO Branch Reference Number:** HO0300144 (Quoting this number when renewing your insurance gives a small commission back to the club).

## Club Committee

**Chairman:** Tony Sparkes 09-473-5872 or 027-499-5588

**Vice-Chairman:** Terry Flude: 021 958 678

**Secretary:** Maurice Whitham 09-627-0310 or 027-296-9293

**Treasurer:** Ross Moon 09-426-1508 or 022 426 1508

**Club Delegate:** Stuart Battersby 022-471-2759

### GENERAL COMMITTEE Members:

**John Higham** 09-478-7973

**Peter Lloyd:** 09-426-7179 or 021-298-8795

**Richard Lloyd:** 09-420-5048 or 027-483-2898

**Andrew Lunt:** 0274 996 803

**Barry Thompson** 09-959-0206

**Arnold Van Zon:** 09 473 5750 or 027 2765336

### OTHER CLUB OFFICERS (Non Committee)

**Members' Garage Manager:** Kevin Lord 09 413 9157

**Welfare Officer:** Brian Bisset 09 554 1740

**Librarian:** Kevin Benseman 022 678 5629

**Beaded Wheels Correspondent:** Richard Bampton 09947 3042

**Magazine Editor:** Stuart Battersby: 022 471 2759 or email [battersby56nz@gmail.com](mailto:battersby56nz@gmail.com)

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