



North Shore
Vintage Car Club

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Progress:

The monthly journal of the
North Shore Vintage Car Club
May 2022



Hi everyone, welcome to the May 2022 edition of Progress magazine. We arrived back from the UK on May 4th and to be honest I am still fighting with the 'Jet-Lag'. Enough of that, we have all been there.

On May 5th I took the MG to renew the WoF that had expired whilst we were away: Arrgh! It failed! Unbalanced rear brakes were picked out on the brake test. On inspection I found a leaking slave cylinder and ruined brake shoes. On the 6th I nipped down to Hawkswood in Wairau and picked up replacement parts, fitted them and bled the system in the afternoon. The retest is booked for the 9th and with fingers crossed I will be mobile by lunchtime.

Please read our **"What's On"** page carefully. We have our AGM on 15th June and apart from our normal business we will be considering a change to our Branch Rules and Constitution. This change is handled administratively by a "Notice of Motion". We plan to have four question and answer sessions to explain the proposed changes and to gather your views and opinions. Timings for these sessions are shown on the "What's On" page.

Thanks as always to our contributors. We have some excellent articles and photographs for you this month.

Stuart Battersby
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In this edition:

- * **Chairman's Report:** Monthly message from Tony Sparkes.
- * **Whale Tail Trail:** Super report and photos from Richard Bampton.
- * **Obituary:** Sad news of founder member Paul Jones.
- * **Sandbach Festival of Transport:** "What we did on our holidays".
- * **What's On:** Still patchy.
- * **News from the Parts Shed:** David Lane reports.
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Cover Girl this month is a 1938 ERF Diesel

Built just two years after Edwin R Foden left his father's company to start a diesel vehicle business.



Chairman's Report: Tony Sparkes

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Wet and windy seems to be the theme at the moment, but jobs are still getting done. The villa rooves have been sprayed and hopefully will come clean soon. Owen Sturgess continues to work on painting the villa and is now replacing some of the roofing iron above the veranda. Maurice Whitham and his team have laid the new parking area to the north of the villa. This was desperately needed as the numbers attending on Thursdays creep up. I would also like to ask members not to park on the grass now. It is getting wetter and the furrows make it more difficult for the grounds crew to mow.

Squeaky wheels make a difference. We have been having trouble with the "new" welding machine. Clive Sandham's persistence in the face of being ignored etc, has resulted in us getting a brand new machine to replace it.

We have been donated a load of very good vintage and veteran parts from a deceased estate, so spread the word amongst those communities. More details will follow later in this edition.

The AGM is coming up soon, so please think about standing for the Committee. Many hands make light work. We will be having a couple of Wednesday evenings very soon to give you the opportunity to discuss the proposed new constitution before the vote at the AGM. Please attend if you can.

Next year, April will see the 50th anniversary of the North Shore Branch of the VCCNZ. Work is underway to smarten up the clubhouse in readiness for the celebrations. We would like some volunteers to think about what sort of events the members would like to commemorate this important milestone.

And yes, my Riley is still in the Members' Bay. Progress is being made. If anyone wants to use the bay, please call and I will move it out of the way. Many thanks to the fellow members helping me to solve the problems that are cropping up.

Stay safe and look after yourselves.

Tony Sparkes

Chairman

Please note new email address; 29tony66@gmail.com

Perhaps Easter Sunday is not the best day to organise a run, but it was the last day that the whale tails were on display round Auckland, so there was little room for manoeuvre. Four eligible cars arrived at the start, where chairman Tony Sparkes was waiting with his Mazda MX5 to give out the instructions and see us off.

Participants in the run were Bill and Robyn Duffy plus grandson, 1928 Ford Model A, Malcolm and Joan Jacques plus grandson, Rover 3.5, Charlie and Jill Armstrong, very original 1979 Range Rover 2 door, Jim and Lynn Hefkey, Almac TG, and Sarah Bampton with her father in a modern.

The Almac is an MG TF inspired fibreglass bodied car, built in New Zealand, and Jim's beautifully kept example is a later version, one of only about 20 built, fitted with a Toyota 2 litre DOHC engine, which fills the engine bay and gives it a lively performance.

The Whale Tail Trail is an initiative by World Wildlife Fund in New Zealand conceived to draw attention to the predicament of the Hauraki Gulf due to over-fishing, pollution from plastics and soil sediment washing into it, together with "other Auckland drain-related pollution" and impacts from climate change that are threatening our marine taonga, including the 14-metre-long Bryde's whales. The Hauraki Gulf is one of only three locations world-wide where these whales breed and rear their young. Now only 135 are left round New Zealand. 67 whale tails, each individually painted by artists from New Zealand have been sponsored and placed round Auckland City.



Everyone having a whale of a time



Meeting up at the Orewa surf club



Very nice Almac TG

Whale Tail Trail: cont.

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At the end of April, they will be auctioned to raise funds to help protect the Gulf. Another 100 smaller tails have been decorated by pupils from local schools and could be seen in shop windows.

Our run took us to 9 of the whale tails on the North Shore. Participants were asked to visit the Orewa whale individually before the start because of parking difficulties near the Sunday Market, so the first group visit was to The Plaza at Whangaparaoa (where everyone ignored the instructions, turning round and exiting the way they had come in.) Here we were joined by Alan and Christine Albon from Auckland VCC in their Mazda MX5. The third tail at Long Bay New World was visited next, and the Rover 3.5 was reported as misfiring and coughing. Bill Duffy again ignored instructions, turning the wrong way out of the car park, and even ignored the horn sounding to alert him to this fact. However local knowledge took him to the Brown's Bay tail where we sadly lost the Rover, presumed to have succumbed to the earlier coughing (or maybe Covid?). Next stop was at Kennedy Park, home to WWII gun emplacements where we enjoyed a leisurely picnic lunch and examined the fortifications. Having dropped Robyn and grandson off at home Bill Duffy re-joined us for lunch. It was here that the Range Rover transformed from a two-door example to the much rarer one-door model, because the lock on the driver's side ceased to operate. Door shown on this side of the photo is no longer a door.



Orewa Surf Club



"The best four by four by far"



Picnic lunch

The next three tails in Takapuna, one of which was missed by two drivers, were drive past because of the impossibility of parking, so the next team tail photo was at Smales Farm. Although it is not too clear in the photo, Christine Albon's dress was nicely colour co-ordinated with this whale. Here two cars left the run, but the promise of an easy run back home from Devonport and ice-creams tempted the remaining cars and occupants to motor to Devonport Wharf to collect the final whale tail.



No offence, but the two fellas seem to be issuing a challenge.

"Come on if you think you're hard enough"

Because he was one of the drivers who completed the run Bill Duffy was forgiven all his transgressions during the day and we drove back up to the Victoria Cinema in Victoria Road to enjoy some well-earned ice creams.

The VCC folk took 2 hours longer to complete the run than when it was done last month by the Vintage Austin Register. This was not due to the sluggishness of the Ford, but because we all enjoyed each other's company and chatted so much during the frequent stops.



Ice creams seem to make everyone happy.

A great run, excellent weather, good company, delicious ice creams and the opportunity to raise awareness of the plight of the Hauraki Gulf and the endangered Bryde's Whales.

Formal Notice

The Annual General Meeting of the North Shore Branch of the Vintage Car Club of New Zealand will take place at 7.30pm prompt on Wednesday 15th June 2022.

All members are kindly invited to attend.

This year in addition to our usual business of considering and approving the annual reports of club officers (including Chairman and Treasurer), electing your committee for the 2022/23 season and presentation of awards, we will be considering a Notice of Motion proposing a change to our branch rules and constitution.

Full details of these changes will be sent to all members in the covering email/letter with this edition of Progress. To further explain, discuss and gain feedback on the proposed changes we are organising four separate briefing sessions prior to the AGM.

Planned dates for these sessions are

- May 25th (Wednesday Members Night @ 7.30pm)
- May 26th (Thursday morning Smoko @ 10.30am)
- June 9th (Wednesday Members Night @ 7.30pm)
- June 10th (Thursday morning Smoko @ 10.30am)

All members are cordially invited to the above proceedings.



Ever popular Smoko discussions

Our spares shed from time to time is given some wonderful treasures from kind benefactors. None so amazing as from the late Jimmy Francis, (ex-Auckland Vintage Car Club for in excess of 60 years) who was widely known for his beloved 1914 green Delage Roadster.

I was called to evaluate his treasures and what a collection he acquired over his lifetime. His executors were in receipt of a substantial cash offer for the contents of one particular shed. I pointed out that we couldn't match that but gave them the assurance that all our parts hopefully go towards the restoration of members cars. I pointed out that we discouraged sales of parts for collections and exhibits. This must have hit the right accord. We were successful in securing a treasure trove of parts including Magnetos, early brass carburetors, a very rare "English Mid-Ship's windscreen. Be quick, some of these are rare and very hard to find. Bring passport and photo of your restoration project. Other news, thanks to everyone last Thursday for your help in transferring all the Japanese spares into our new storage container. We are looking for a knowledgeable person to separate this stuff onto the shelves to make some sense.



David Lane and "Team Spare Parts".



A new one on me.... English Mid-Ships windscreen

Sad loss of a founder member

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Paul Jones, one of the branch's founding members passed away on the 13 February 2022, aged 87

Paul was a very active member in the early Devonport/Oteha Valley Road days, He was an early committee member and bar manager in the old Devonport clubrooms.

He one of the original team that worked on the Dennis bus when it was stored in Devonport. Back then it was the objective to have it restored and on the 1980 International rally in Rotorua.

Paul did restore his 1913 Overland race-a-bout for that event. Paul completed most of the restoration work himself.

He was also at the front of restoring the current clubrooms after they were moved from Stanley Point to Oteha Valley Road.

Paul's membership lapsed some years ago after moving away from the North Shore and pursuing other interests.



Paul's glorious 1913 Overland 'Race-a-Bout'

Autumn May Run to Wenderholm and Picnic Lunch.

Sunday 15th May 2022

- Meet at the Club Rooms (Car Park) at 10.00 am for a 10.30 am start.
- The toilets will be accessible for anyone who might need them.
- You will need to bring your own chairs and tables, picnic food and refreshments.
- We will have a BBQ available, and the Club will be providing some tasty sausages and bread.
- The run is ideally suited to Veteran & Vintage vehicles so if you have one please give it an outing.
- All vehicles are however welcome and the run has a competitive element for those who wish to partake.
- We have been very fortunate to be able to use the Couldrey House Garden for our picnic and the cars will be on display for the public to view between 12.00pm and 2.00 pm.
- Hope to see as many of you as possible.

Cars in the Garden
Couldrey House
Wenderholm Regional Park
Sunday, 15 May - 12 to 2 pm



We're hosting a bevy of vintage and classic cars in the Garden. Enjoy this free display with family and friends, then visit our fascinating Historic House Museum. Round off the day with a picnic on the beach or a scenic Wenderholm walk.
We hope to see you there!

John Castle & Bill Duffy

Sandbach Festival of Transport: something different

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Sandbach is a small market town in Cheshire, UK and was our destination on our recent visit to see our daughter and family. Sandbach is a very old settlement dating back to Saxon times. It is an architype small English town with a cobbled square surrounded by quaint pubs with oak beams and low ceilings. The town was once a staging post for the North/South stagecoach service and “The Wheatsheaf” pub still boasts an arch through the building to a cobbled courtyard, where travellers (and horses) could rest overnight.



Nice Mk2 Jaguar in the public car park

Moving to more modern times, the town was the original home of Foden trucks formed in 1856. Sandbach is also the home of ERF trucks, a company formed by Edwin Richard Foden, (son of the original Foden founder) to build diesel powered trucks.



One of the many traction engines on display

To celebrate this association with trucking, the town organises an annual Festival of Transport. I visited the show this year to view the parade of vehicles. The town was mobbed and my 3 year old grandson, William, was not happy with the noisy air-horns on the modern trucks in the parade.



A very early 1938 Foden



Did these reach NZ?



What's this?



WW2 Morris Commercial



Foden country bus



There's always an Austin!

Upcoming Events: diaries are starting to fill up

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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. .

May

May 18: Auckland Branch: Midweek Tourers. Start from the BP Service Centre, Southern Motorway, Drury, 10am for a 10:30am departure.

May 21: North Shore Branch Monthly Run: Cars and Classics at a country house.

May 25: Wednesday Members' Night: Notice of Motion discussion.

May 26: Thursday morning 'Smoko': Notice of Motion discussion.

June

June 9: Wednesday Members' Night: Notice of Motion discussion.

June 10: Thursday morning 'Smoko': Notice of Motion discussion.

June 15: Branch Annual General Meeting: Wednesday Night 7.30pm

June 15: Auckland Branch: Midweek Tourers: Start from The Warehouse carpark, Westgate 10am for a 10:30am departure.

June 19: Club Run. t.b.a.

July

July 17: Club Run t.b.a

July 20: Auckland Branch: Midweek Tourers: Start from the BP Service Centre, Southern Motorway, Drury, 10am for a 10:30am departure.

Regular Diary

Committee Meetings: Last Monday of every month, 7.30pm.

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

Wednesday Evenings: Club night. Coffee, tea and banter.

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 lockdowns over the past two years have taken their toll on our club runs and rallies. Any ideas/volunteers to help get things moving again will gain the eternal gratitude of the rest of club members. Can you help please?

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 we continue to fight Covid.

Supercharged Austin Seven Project: Clive

Sandham weaves some more magic

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Many thanks Clive. Fabulous looking car, you'll have to tell us more about this in our next issue.

- New Members:** Russell Keach 1968 McLaren; John Dennelly 1986 Aston Martin; Paul Beeson 1962 Morris Minor and 1981 Honda motorbike; Cory Bennett; John Milson.
- Constitution review:** The Constitution Review committee will be available at four events to discuss the new constitution. The dates are 25, 26 May 2022 & 9, 10 June 2022.
- Rubbish on Masons Road berm:** The council have been contacted for removal.
- Club Car Parking:** Topsoil still to be delivered and plants and bark for the garden still to be completed. Still need to move the excess crushed concrete.
- Clubrooms upgrade:** Work is progressing on an upgrade of the clubrooms for the 50th anniversary next year.
- Graffiti:** Graffiti on the new shed. Suggestion to plant Grisilneas along the side of the shed.
- Daffodil Day:** Since Caffeine and Classics has been terminated, it has been suggested that we have a combined run (with Waitemata and Warkworth/Wellsford) starting at Hooton's Park opposite the Albany Mitre 10 and finishing at Matakana.



Working on the chain gang: and other aspects of club life.

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Great team work as regular members pull together and transfer our Japanese Spares holding from their temporary location to the new container.

Unspoken hero Mike Garner finishes off painstaking 'Deep-Clean' of our kitchen area.

This Essex is what an 'Oily Rag' restoration should look like. Absolutely stunning and proof indeed that a car is only original once. To my shame I do not know the owner of this vehicle but I would love to know more. Please contact me on battersby56nz@gmail.com or 022 471 2759. I can definitely see this being a 'Cover Girl' in a future edition.

About Us

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Club Address: 40 Masons Rd, Albany, 0632

Phone: 09-4792779: **email:** northshorevcc@gmail.com

Website: 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, 7.30pm .

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

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

Barry Thompson 09-959-0206

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

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

Mike Swanton: 09 426 0011

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

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