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# December 2011

## Events Diary 2011

**Sunday, Dec 4**

**Christmas BBQ**

Combined Clubs Christmas BBQ

**Sunday, Jan 1, 2012**

**New Year Run**

1st run of the year on the 1st day of the year!

**Sunday, Feb 12**

**February Fun**

Regular 1st Sunday of the month run on 2nd Sunday instead so we can go to the Skope Classic

**Sun 19 - Sat 25 Feb Classic Marathon TT**

Based in the South Island in 2012

**Sunday, Mar 4**

**March Mayhem**

We're not planning on mayhem but it sounds fun

**Sunday, Apr 1**

**April Fools Run**

This run could have a very interesting aspect

**Christmas BBQ**

**Sunday, 4th Dec**

**Combined Car Clubs BBQ & Picnic**

Meet at 10.30 at Princess Margaret Hospital east carpark (the larger carpark so there's room for all the cars that will be turning up) for the leisurely run to Orton Bradley Park or proceed directly there. Once again an area has been reserved and set aside for all our vehicles.

If you have an easily transportable BBQ it could be handy! Bring BBQ food and wrapped parcels suitable for adults from the \$2 shop equal to the number of people in your party for Father Xmas to distribute. Remember, last year was extremely hot and the chocolate tended to melt in the presents!

Admission to Orton Bradley Park is now \$5 per adult, \$1 per child or \$10 per carload.

Please remember to invite anyone you know with a classic vehicle and other classic car clubs you belong to. This event is an opportunity for us all to get together, admire each other's vehicles, eat too much and get sunburnt. Hmmm, maybe that's just me!

The weather forecast at the moment is for showers on Sunday but we all know how reliable weather forecasts can be! So, this event will be on, rain or shine. There is a building we can use if it's wet but it will be a squish if we have the same numbers as last year. We suggest you bring your brollies as well as your sunblock.

**New Year's Day Run Sun, 1st Jan 2012**

Starting the runs for this year, Julian Barrett is planning another of his very interesting country runs. Usual time and meeting place of Princess Margaret Hospital carpark in time to leave at 10.30am.

**February Fun**

**Sunday, 12th Feb**

February 2011 was a busy and fun month (until 22nd!) but 2012 is looking even better. As in the past, our usual 1st Sunday in the month slips back to the 2nd Sunday as many like to attend the Classic Car Racing at Ruapuna on Waitangi weekend.

## cmsnz Who's Who

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## From Sharpies Dashboard

Firstly let me, on behalf of your committee, wish you all the very best for the holiday and festive season. For those of us from Christchurch it has been a year most of us would prefer to forget. A

visit to the temporary mall in Cashel Street was a great experience and a delight. A reminder that things are on the improve and the chance for us to visit Johnsons The Grocers, Ballantynes and Scorpio books again and buy some goodies for friends and family. It was uplifting to see so many happy faces enjoying the quirkiness, colour and atmosphere of the temporary mall.

On the 4th of December we will be having our final run of the year in the form of the annual combined Picnic at Orton Bradley Park. Here's hoping for good weather and a record turnout. See you there.

We have some entries for the February TT Marathon but need a few more to break even. The plotting has been completed and I am working on the route book. Using some great tarmac roads with enough gravel options thrown in to keep you all happy. Accommodation is tight as it will be peak season so we have pre booked at all stopover points. Mainly at the Top Ten Holiday Parks in their excellent motels and self contained units. They are expecting your call. Get your entry in by the 6th of December and get the early bird rate.

Thanks to Julian Barrett and his team of helpers for setting up our display at the Car Show in November. A good amount of interest in CMSNZ was shown.

Our Sunday runs, coordinated by Mel Peters (thanks Mel) are going well and will start again on the 1st Sunday in January.

There will be the opportunity to work with our Northern colleagues on a couple of occasions during the year and then we have the BIG ONE for 14 days on our September South Australian Odyssey which has been plotted by Robin Fletcher who did Victoria and coordinated Tasmania for us. We will have all the details, including costs, out before Christmas. Accommodation has been booked and deposits paid by the Club. Max

Clarke is checking out rental cars for us. The tour will start and finish in Melbourne. Expressions of interest from you suggest a good group prepared to make the trip and we will be inviting entries and a deposit in January.

Stephanie will be putting up the details on our web site and Facebook page which she manages for us as well as looking after the newsletter and administration for tours and club matters. We will providing some help with the Newsletter for her and we will let you know more about that in January.

In the meantime enjoy your driving and what ever you do keep safe

*All the best  
Sharpie*



*continued from front page*

Meet at Princess Margaret Hospital west car park for another run that's currently being prepared. Bring your picnic lunch and your sunnies! Use this run to check that your car is ready for the Classic Marathon TT from 18th – 25th Feb.



## Classic Marathon TT Sun 19 - Sat 25, Feb

The entries have been coming in for this week long event.

We're looking forward to the Classic Marathon being back on the Mainland. Once again, the two Graeme's have been out and about plotting the route and arranging things so that the tour goes off smoothly.

We have had to make some changes as the accommodation is quite scarce due to it being the prime tourist season. We will be sending out updates on that shortly and will update the website as well.

If you want any more information, the entry form is on our website but feel free to phone or email Graeme Sharp or Graeme Matheson. Their contact details are on the front page.

## October Outing Report

Some met at Princess Margaret Hospital as usual and a few drove straight to Horsepower on Russley Road. It was a lovely warm spring morning — just ideal for an animal themed trip.

After arriving at Horsepower, we viewed many horses, including two of New Zealand's best trotters "Take a Moment" and "Lyell Creek", the winner of 2.9 million dollars in stakes throughout his career.

Lindsay Kerslake, owner of Horsepower, kindly donated two rides in the double cars. Peter and Irene were the winners of a draw and enjoyed the thrill of a race with speeds up to 50km/hour.

We moved on the Groynes for lunch in a nice sheltered spot. We then drove toward Tai Tapu via McLeans Island, out towards West Melton, passing through the lovely new subdivisions of Gainsborough and Preston Downs. Then on through Rolleston and Lincoln to Carol and Geoff's "Westoby Dorper Stud Farm" in time for afternoon tea. Special thanks to Carol and Geoff who invited us to view their original homestead dated 1877 which was interesting.

We then visited the animals: a couple of 'girls' helping to feed the calves and a couple of 'blokes' enjoyed helping Geoff bring in the cows, taking down the electric fences along the way. The cows were milking as we left.

We enjoyed a good trip with a difference. Thanks to Jack and Sue for organising it.

*Gill Milne*

## Alpine Classic 2011 Report

**You know how we go looking for snow? Well, we found some!**

It was a dark and stormy night - no hang on! It was a beautifully clear and sunny day. The mountains were glistening under a fresh layer of snow that had covered Canterbury and most of the South Island at the beginning of the week, but it had cleared off the roads in Mid-Canterbury so we were left with perfect driving conditions and spectacular views.

As you know, one of the driving (ha ha) forces behind the Alpine Classic is that we go looking for snow. This year, we absolutely knew we were going to find it. The question was, how much would we find?

The start was at the Willowby Hall and was catered by the PTA from

Longbeach School. It was a perfect morning to cruise down and we thought we would be there in plenty of time BUT we'd forgotten about the enthusiasm of the Alpine participants so were one of the later vehicles that arrived. Most people were inside bending each other's ears, scoffing sandwiches and drinking tea!

Ian and I had volunteered to be the TEC (tail end charlie) for the tour but when we arrived we discovered that there were two other vehicles that could also be TECs i.e. 4WD rather than a classic car. Such is the life, and probably age, of the classic car owner.

After welcoming the youngest (and smallest) participant to the world of classic motoring - my 4 year old niece, Audrey - and scoffing food, the Alpine Classic 2011 was declared open and people headed off towards Longbeach. All except for one who headed off in completely the wrong direction! It turned out they went and refuelled, just in case.

We headed off towards the coast and through Longbeach Estate and onto the first of many shingle roads. What amazed me was that even though I grew up in this area, I hadn't ever been on some of the roads we drove over! The two Graemes had done a great job of finding interesting roads.

A number of hazards were encountered on the Coast Road, including some bulls that had escaped from their paddock and had to be escorted off the road. The Lotus did a fine job of grading the shingle in the middle of the road, thank you. We wended our way south looking at the amazing mountains with all that snow wondering when we were going to get into it.

A lunch stop in Geraldine provided the first of many playground stops for the youngest participant. And then it was on to Oamaru for the first of 2 nights. The motel had a bar and dining facility so was also the venue for the Saturday night dinner of the tour.

The bar, of course, was a welcome gathering point for all the participants.

Saturday morning was clear and sunny again but the air was extremely crisp. Today was the day that we knew we'd find snow so everyone was rearing to go. Audrey modelled the latest in classic car tour gear with bright red racing overalls that were the envy of many a tour participant!

Once again, the Graemes, Matheson and Sharp, had done an excellent job on the route planning and notes.







The day was calm, still and extremely bright as we drove through the snowy and incredibly beautiful countryside. I was very grateful not to be a farmer trying to ensure that all my stock was being fed - the snow was deep and it was extremely cold.

We were not able to follow all of our intended route in the Maniototo and Otago as some of the planned roads had not been graded. Some participants had a much more adventurous time than they intended as they tried to stick to the route and (almost) got stopped by the snow.

By this time we knew that Dansey's Pass was closed. It had not been graded at all and the snow was reportedly over 1m deep. We couldn't even get into the Pub as it was closed for a wedding! But to make up for that, some participants went off and watched the curling at the Naseby (covered) rink.

*I apologise but I've actually run out of room in this newsletter to finish this Alpine Report. I'll get the full report onto the website shortly so you don't have to wait in suspense for the January newsletter! Stephanie Royds*

## Upcoming Events!

### Odyssey 2012

**Wed 26 Sept - Sun 9 Oct**

As our tour planner in Australia (Robin Fletcher) has planned and plotted the Odyssey, we thought it was high time we filled you in on the action. Days One to Eight were outlined in previous newsletters.

### Day NINE:

Again Australia's iron ore and steel industries feature today but first there is a detour through to Wilmington, originally called Beautiful Valley due to the magnificent scenery of the surrounding Flinders Ranges. Port Augusta, the fifth most populous city in South Australia, features as a seaport, railway junction and service centre for freight trucks and travellers crossing the Nullarbor and is followed by stops at Hummocky now known as Whyalla and the source of the iron ore, Iron Knob.

### Day TEN

Our last day in South Australia provides a closer look at the Flinders Ranges as we travel first to Quorn and then Orroroo. Quorn is home to the Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society Inc. Today offers the chance to capture that baffling video footage as your car rolls up "Magnetic Hill" then we move on to Peterborough with its Round House Exchange, housing a unique railway turntable and other railway equipment. Broken Hill is our destination and this isolated mining city in the far west outback of New South Wales has much to offer.

### Day ELEVEN:

Discover Broken Hill on this "rest" day. It has developed as a vibrant Mecca for artists and filmmakers, a long way from its roots as the site of the richest deposit of silver, lead and zinc the world has ever seen. The town is also known for its input into the formation of the labour movement in Australia, and has a rich trade union history. Aside from the mining history there are many attractions with town history walking trails, many resident artists and galleries, the Sculpture Symposium and vast landscapes

### Day TWELVE:

Today it is time to be drawn southwards to the waters of the Murray River again. Specifically Wentworth, an historic town at the junction of the Murray and Darling rivers. The drive to Wentworth is around 270kms, with the only retail premises being the Coombah Roadhouse approximately half way between Broken Hill and Wentworth. Crossing the Murray we reach what was a drought-ravaged, rabbit-strewn sheep station in 1886 and now transformed, through the miracle of the Chaffey brothers' irrigation scheme, town of Mildura,

### Day THIRTEEN THE LAST DAY

We begin by contrasting Mildura with Nyah, a utopian socialist community originally formed in the 1890s, then cross the path of Major Thomas Mitchell before reaching Kerang where there is an opportunity to inspect relics of local history, including farm machinery and cars, at the Kerang Historical Museum. Our final destination of the tour is Echuca, located at the junction of the Murray and Campaspe rivers. Echuca was the second largest port on the Murray and, being the closest point of the Murray River to Melbourne, was both a key river port and railway junction, Melbourne is just a three hour drive away but there are plenty of attractions to make Echuca an ideal stop-over for a day or two.



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