



NOVEMBER 2012

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Events Diary

Sunday, Nov 4 Nosing into November

David Beer has an interesting run for us – lunching amongst the Rhododendrons. Last 3km’s shingle road. Usual Start PMH 10.30am – Bring picnic lunch.

Sunday, Dec 2 Christmas Picnic

Combined Christmas Picnic with all Classic Vehicle Clubs in Canterbury. Our Club is the Host this year. Usual venue Orton Bradley Park Charteris Bay.

Sunday, Jan 6 January Jaunt

Usual Starting place – PMH Car Park No 3 – 10.30am.
Julian will take us on one of his surprising jaunts.

CMSNZ Who’s Who

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Saab Classics Downunder Tour (DOC permitting) Feb 15 – 17 2013.

The Maruia Saddle – The Rainbow – The Molesworth all within our sights. Tour will be based at Top Ten Holiday Park in Hanmer. All club members welcome to participate. Contact Graeme Sharp for details.

Julian’s Jottings

What a month it has been.

Thanks to Jim for organising the October run to Lake Hood. Unfortunately I will miss the November run as I will be popping up to jafa land for the weekend.

We have just completed a week of motoring around Canterbury on the NZ ClassicCar Rally organised by Roy Hughes. What a great event, catching up with people we met on previous rallies and making new friends from all over the country, and the variety of cars, it must be heaven! Kathy drove and I navigated (this is the only way I get to tell her where to go!) I had to keep telling her to slow down, its like once behind the wheel of the Stag the race mode kicks in, the eyes light up and she transforms into the Stig! You should have seen her racing around Ruapuna, nothing was going to get passed her. She won the female drivers award for her efforts over the week. Sadly this may be the last rally that Roy will organise, as he says everyone is getting older and most of the country has been covered over the past 17 years since the first rally in 1995. It makes you wonder where is the next generation of car enthusiasts, is the cost of owning a classic prohibitive or are they too busy raising families and paying off mortgages.

LAST YEAR’S CHRISTMAS PICNIC

Make sure you come and join with us on Dec 2nd



ODE TO OCTOBER – REPORT

A lovely sunny morning with a dozen cars, met at PMH for our monthly car run.

We travelled through Lincoln where Carol & Jeff met us, on to Springston and through Leeston. We saw new born foals, calf feeding, a deer farm (still surviving) and “The Truck Graveyard”, all these amongst the many dairy conversions accumulating in the area.

After crossing the Rakaia River we travelled through some lovely country roads. Views of snow capped mountains, and spring flowering trees, were beautiful. We drove out to Wakanui Beach for a quick look at the coast and fishermen’s baches.

While here we heard about Roger & Zay Hunt’s Citroen, which was having a test run, for next weeks Roy Hughes 10th NZ Classic Car Hub Rally, had broken down at Rakaia. The problem was discovered to be “alternator not alternating” when they returned home.

Back to Seaside Road and a view into Five Star Beef feedlot. Carried on along Beach Road, with lifestyle properties and suburban housing which led us into Ashburton where we headed on to Tinwald, turning into Grahams Road to take us onto Lake Hood. We met Maureen & Doug there. They informed us that the lake was like a millpond when they arrived, but had become quite choppy as a wind had arisen. Numerous boating activities were taking place while we lingered and caught up with each other over a picnic lunch. On leaving we drove around the housing area noting that each property has it’s own waterfront which is really nice.

We headed to Salmon Tales, at Rakaia for coffee and cake and more socialising. Thanks Gill & Jim for an interesting trip. Sue Coleman.

AUSTRALIAN ODYSSEY 2012

DAY 1: We began with a group breakfast at the Gatehouse Sunbury organised by Robin & Barbara. We were all keen to get underway and enjoyed the driving through the Victorian farming area in the morning and the Great Coastal Highway in the afternoon. We went to a local RSL for dinner.

DAY2: A great starting place by the beach watching race horses having a swim as part of their training. First stop was at the Tower Hill Reserve which is in the crater of an extinct volcano. It was abuzz with wildlife - Emu - Kangaroo - snake - porcupine - great bird life. Some members did a nature walk. Lunch was at Portland another historic town - Tram - Botanical Gardens and the compulsory Motor Museum. More lovely coastal driving and the last gem was the Blue Lake. Group BBQ tonight - Ellen & Graeme the shoppers. We celebrated Barbara Fletcher's birthday at the BBQ.

DAY 3: 8am start at the Umperston Sink Hole in Mount Gambia. A long day 458km. Very strong winds &

torrential rain along parts of the route. Lovely old towns with so much history - lolly shops - cafes and interesting people. Long Stretches of road with no sign of life! It was great to cross the Murray River and marvel at the 2 bridges. Question sheet involved much discussion between driver & navigator. Great to see the Pelicans in flight battling the winds.

DAY 4: We had a overnight stay quite close to Adelaide but Robin managed to route us on a very interesting tour through the McLaren Valley wine region. We also visited Goolwa - Port Elliot & Victor Harbour. Our accommodation was near the beach.

DAY 5: Bay to Birdwood day! We were all up early and ready to go the 70km's to The National Motor Museum at Birdwood. We delayed our start to watch the first of the Vintage vehicles pass by the Motel. The vehicles had to be pre 1955 but most were in the very old category. There were about 1500 vehicles on display. The organising committee had a great programme for the day and the rain stayed away.

DAY 6 : Free Day Graeme & Ellen organised a group BBQ.

DAY 7 : We climbed over the Adelaide Hills to behold a great vista of a large plain. We mostly followed the Murray River north and it was amazing to see the different aspects of the river. There are 11 free ferry's that cross the river as part of the National Highway programme. There are 6 locks in South Australia. We passed Lake Bonney where in 1964 Donald Campbell tried for a World Water Speed record. Sadly not to be as the lake was too small and there was always a dangerous ripple. We spent the night in Renmark.

DAY 8: Port Pirie was our destination to-day. Huge areas of land in cultivation & then huge areas as waste land. We have enjoyed seeing the wildlife - Kangaroos - Emu - All Kinds of Reptiles - Sheep - Goats as we drive along. Lunch stop was Clare - we then passed through several historic towns one being Snow town which was famous for the "Bodies in the Barrell" case. Port Broughton had a very long jetty.

DAY 9: Port - Pirie to Port Augusta. Beautiful old towns - Murray - Melrose - Willmington. So interesting it was Lunch Time and we were still 2 hours from the lunch stop. Across wide plains to the ghost town of Iron Knob and the Coastal town of Whyalla. Another of Graeme & Ellen's BBQ's for tea. Everyone takes a turn at cooking or chopping salads- great Social times.

DAY 10: A big journey to-day all the way to Broken Hill - long stretches of road - desert each side and many dead kangaroos along the way. We began by climbing through some of the Flinders Ranges through the towns of Quorn & Orroroo. In Orroroo there is a "magnetic hill" that may pull your car along even when it is in neutral. The Korean cars had too much plastic & aluminium to work but the Holden showed us how it was done! Thanks Ray & Barbara. Peterborough was an interesting lunch stop before we tackled the next 255km's with only 3 very small road houses along the way.

DAY 11: Free day in Broken Hill. Broken Hill is very much a working man's town. We found a Musician's club where we eventually had an evening meal - some of us went again the next night and the wait was not so long! Some visited Mines - a sculpture park - a desert garden - a 1950's style milk bar & the very limited shopping centre. We agreed that it would not be easy living in Broken Hill.

DAY 12: Off to Mildura - a few short turns and we were on a 250km stretch with only 1 Roadhouse. We arrived at the Roadhouse ready to use toilet and perhaps buy a snack but the signs were so unwelcoming we kept going - not much further along there was a very nice Rest Area that we were able to use. We arrived in Wentworth for a lunch stop and visited the Junction of the Darling & Murray Rivers. There was a bit of a rush on as it was "Bathurst" day and some were keen to get to see the end of the race. In the Mildura Port area there was a Houseboat of sorts - the owner was an eccentric gentleman - the boat was full of junk had hens that were scratching away on the bank. Some of us were invited on board to listen to some singing and possibly buy a CD. He was gone by morning off on an adventure to Renmark.

Day13: All too soon the last day and a drive to Echuca. Swan Hill was the main town to-day and a highlight for us was a visit to the Flying Boat Museum at Lake Boga. Some interesting un-sealed roads - Robin was surprised how much red mud we had on the cars at the finish. A tour end dinner was held at the Moama Bowling Club. We stayed in Victoria but went to New South Wales for dinner!

Robin had prepared a Daily Question Sheet for us. There was great competition - especially Sharpie who was on his own but still managed to be in the top few cars each day. Max & Merilyn came first and Richard & Sue Horrell

were awarded the "Spirit of the Event" prize.

27 of us had a great Tour.

A huge THANK-YOU to Robin & Barbara - Graeme & Diane - Graeme & Ellen - Max & Merilyn for all your efforts in making the tour so successful.

Gill Peters

