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APRIL 2014

EVENTS DIARY

SUNDAY 6TH APRIL:

Usual Sunday outing. Jim Milne will take us to Ashburton where we will lunch at the Plains Museum Timwald. PMH Car Park 3 at 10.30am then Rolly Inn Rolleston at 11am.

THURSDAY 17TH APRIL GOLD CARD CRUISERS

We need some-one to lead this run. Please contact Mel Peters 03 337 4144. You will be emailed the starting point.

SUNDAY MAY 4TH :

Usual Sunday outing. Roger Hunt has an interesting day out planned for us. More details next Newsletter.

THURSDAY MAY 16TH:

Gold Card Cruisers: More details next month.

2015 SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER NEW SOUTH WALES ODYSSEY:

Graeme Sharp is organising another Australian Odyssey. One highlight will be going to BATHURST!

CMSNZ WHO'S WHO

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2014 MARATHON

WE DON'T KNOW HOW LUCKY WE ARE



More details and pictures further down the Newsletter

JULIAN'S JOTTINGS

It was good to catch up with everyone on the monthly run to Methven, thanks Jim for organising. It was also nice to see a number of new faces and cars including my Dad who arrived in his recently acquired RR Silvershadow and took some lucky members for a tiki tour.

Progress on my cars has been slow of late due to work commitments and weekend distractions ...I have retrieved the Stag gearbox in pieces, cost me \$175 for them to dismantle (maybe that included 6 months storage also!!) so you could guess their rebuild price was going to be enough to persuade me to do it myself with a little help, and once the necessary parts arrive we will rebuild over the next couple of months, hopefully by then the engine will be back and ready to go. In the meantime the mini is getting a reconditioned head and hopefully should be back on the road in the next month. By now the WDKHLWA marathon will be over, I trust everyone had a great time and made it home without any breakdowns! We don't know how lucky we are... to have the 2 Graemes organise these events, thank you for your efforts.

GOLD CARD CRUISERS GROUP

All Club members are welcome to attend these events. Last month we had a member on her own as "hubby" is still working. Please come along and join with us.

REPORT ON MARCH 2ND OUTING:



Lunch stop at Methven Sports Park

A good line up of eighteen cars gathered at the Rolly Inn Car Park and on a sunny morning, we all set off towards Dunsandel , to turn off onto country roads.

It was good to see some new people and their cars and do hope they enjoyed the day.

After crossing the Rakaia Gorge; the river looked perfect for fishing; we arrived at the Methven Sports Ground for lunch. The wind was stronger on our journey back through the Gorge to Darfield where we had our usual coffee stop. Another enjoyable day.
Gill Milne

A JOKE FROM JULIAN:

"You never surprise me" a woman moaned one day to her long suffering husband.

"Buy me a surprise for my birthday. Something that can accelerate from 0 to 150 in under 4 seconds ... and I'd prefer a blue one!", she hinted.

Happy and excited she was counting down the days to her birthday.

And finally she got the beautiful present her husband had thoughtfully chosen for her.

He's dead now ... but he died a legend!

“GOLD CARD CRUISERS”

Thursday 13thth March.



Gold Car Cruisers Cars lined up adjacent to Waimak Gorge Bridge

We met at the Rolly Inn and enjoyed a leisurely drive through to West Melton, touring the Gainsborough and Preston Downs sub-divisions before cruising along the Old West Coast Road to Waimak Gorge for lunch at the picnic area.

Then on to Oxford for afternoon coffee. Another great day. Gill Milne

2015 NEW SOUTH WALES ODYSSEY

We are proceeding with our next 14 day adventure in Australia. The final dates are to be confirmed, but it will be late September /early October 2015. The route plotting is underway and it is intended that we circumnavigate the State with a stop- over in Orange so we can go to the Bathurst race meeting. As with the South Australian Odyssey we will be asking for a non- refundable deposit to cover the organising expenses and motel booking deposits. We will let you know the details once we have the dates confirmed.

If you wish to or are interested in joining us can you please send your details to Graeme Sharp so he can put together a mailing list specific to the tour.

We will also give updates in the News- letter.

There has to be reasonable interest to make it worthwhile to do the planning.

Graeme's email address for the tour is info@saabclassics.net and his contact details are 03 3278991 or 021 395944.

CAR OF THE MONTH:



This lovely 1966 Thunderbird is still missing! If seen contact. Gill Peters 03 337 4144

CAR FOR SALE:

SAAB SONNET for sale.

Diane and Graeme have decided to part with their All Black 1971 SAAB Sonett 3 sports car.

It is powered by a reliable 1700cc V4 Motor and drives through the front wheels. The body is in great condition and being mainly fibreglass is rust free. It is valued at \$25,000.

Talk to Graeme is you are interested and let your friends who might like unique classic cars know it is available...Graeme's numbers are 033278991 or 021 395944



2014 MARARTHON REPORT

RESULTS

SPIRIT OF THE EVENT:

Car 21 George & Maryanne Kear

SAAB MERIT AWARD:

Car 24 Ray & Barbara Hunton

BEST WDKNHLWA PHRASE:

Car 11 John & Merilyn Gallagher

We drive Kiwi Highways Long Way Around

PHRASE AT THE START OF THE WEEK

We don't know how lucky we are.

PHRASE AT THE END OF THE WEEK

We DO know how lucky we are.

NAVIGATORS QUIZZ:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 st | Jenny Keightly |
| 2 nd | Barbara Hunton |
| 3 rd | Ellen McCrae |
| 4 th | Ray Mackie |
| 5 th | Averill Smith |
| 6 th | Larry Jamieson |

The organising team wish to thank all the participants. Your spirit as an entrant, sense of fun and comradery make it all worthwhile. We just hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. Thank-you G1 & G2



The beginning of our journey

Sunday

We left Rakaia in the middle of Cyclone Lucy and proceeded to the Coastal Road from Rakaia to Ashburton. Geoff & Jenny's Saab decided not to come with us so they returned to Christchurch and continued the tour in a Citroen. A quick trip to Hinds and the Rangitata River environs – through Geraldine to the back roads of South Canterbury. The rain was ceaseless and by the time we reached the Backline Road the "Fords" were treacherous. Some cars made it through 2 fords but the 3rd was impassable. And the return journey was more hazardous as the rivers had risen even further. So a quiet run down the Main Road to Waimate.



St. Patrick's Day briefing at Waimate.

MONDAY

Was St. Patricks Day and most entered into the spirit of the day. We left in better weather and travelled 40 odd km's before turning further inland up a country road marked by a White Post. Luckily Graeme & Ellen were waiting to show us the way. It was an interesting road mainly through a farm and was a bit slippery because of the rain. The next challenge was Myers Pass and some of us had morning tea at the top. A drive around the Hakataramea Valley completed the morning section. After lunch we followed the hydro lakes to Omarama (sadly Graeme & Ellen's Saab blew it's engine here). A lovely dinner was had at the McKenzie Hotel in Twizel and a big breakfast got us off to a good start in the morning.



Slippery roads around Elephant Hill

Tuesday.

From Twizel we went back to Tekapo and Dog Kennel Corner before we headed up the Hakatarmea Valley and a ruined tyre for Roger & Zay Hunt – beautiful scenery and interesting fords (not the car type). A quick stop in Kurow and off towards Danseys Pass. The road was quite rough but we all made it to Naesby – then a run up the Maniatoto Valley to skirt Omakau and arrive in Cromwell.



Dusty cars at the Dansey's Pass Hotel.

Wednesday:

We spent Wednesday in Cromwell visiting the Highlands Motorsport Park in the morning. Some of the group drove their cars around the race track behind a pace car. Most wished that they could have gone faster! Jim Milne did a "Hot Lap" in a Porsche GT3 – he smiled all day & Doug Frost drove himself in a Suzuki Sport and managed to get his time well up the leader board of other drivers! Well done Jim & Doug.



Our members on the track at Highlands Motorsport Park



Doug Frost on the Leader Board

Thursday

We left Cromwell at 9am and drove some lovely shingle roads towards St. Bathans. Lorna & David Wright who were unable to join the tour because of ill health had us to morning tea at their country home. More shingle and up the other side of the Maniatoto and had lunch at Ranfurley. A great afternoon drive across hilltops and finally down at Outram just outside Mosgiel. We had a BBQ which was quite an undertaking for so many people. Ellen did the shopping – Doug & Jim cooked the sausages and the ladies prepared the salads and bread. John Gallagher dried up the dishes.



The blue lake at St. Bathans



Jim & Doug cooking the Sausages!

Friday

We headed South and turned inwards towards the Sinclair Wetlands. We climbed up a gorge full of native trees and birds singing to us (with open top cars) – at the top we discovered Lake Mahinerangi which supplies Dunedin with it's water. The farms were a glorious site to behold. We then went through Rocklands Station and more delightful roads. One sight was a fence line covered in pelts – some-one though they were pig skins but perhaps they were something else. We eventually skirted the Macraes mine where George lost all of his oil on a cattle stop! Kindly Roger towed him to Palmerston. A delightful run around Trotters Gorge completed a great day.



Briefing at Mosgiel



Starting problems on the Macraes Rd on Friday

Saturday

A favourite drive out to Kakanui and then a visit to Kuriheka Station which was first settled in 1885. There is a lovely war memorial there to the locals who went to fight in the first World War. More lovely shingle roads before we crossed the Waitaki River. A drive around Glenavy and a visit to the Waihao River Box which is an interesting way of getting water from an estuary into the see. This culvert system dated back to 1896 and was under repair when we visited. More South Canterbury shingle roads until we arrived at Temuka and then it was a straight drive up Highway 1 to our final dinner at Ashburton.

3 old Saab's started 1 finished! Well done Graeme & Diane

Thank-you Graeme & Graeme



Glenys & Roger Arden who joined us for the tour from Liverpool England.

If you have enjoyed reading about the tour – join us next year on the Alpine or the New South Wales Odyssey.