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JUNE

2014

EVENTS DIARY

SUNDAY 1ST JUNE:

Usual Meeting Princess Margaret Hospital Car Park No3 at 10.30am or Ashley River Bridge Reserve on the Loburn Road @ 11.15am. Don't forget picnic lunch.

THURSDAY 12th

GOLD CARD CRUISERS

Gill Peters will host us to-day. It is mid-winter so we are going to Akaroa to lunch at Bully Hayes. We will meet at the A&P Showgrounds Curletts Road at 10.30am.

SUNDAY JULY 6TH:

We will meet at Princess Margaret Hospital Car Park 3 at 10.30am for a short drive before going to Filedelfio's Restaurant for Lunch followed by the AGM of your club at 2pm. Numbers for the lunch to Mel & Gill Peters 03 337 4144 or petersmg@ihug.co.nz

THURSDAY JULY 17TH

Gold Card Cruisers Details in next newsletter.

FRIDAY JULY 25TH:

West Coast weekend - details further down newsletter

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

Chairman:	Julian Barrett 03 359 1100 jkbarrrett@clear.net.nz
Vice- Chairman:	Graeme Sharp 021 395 944
Treasurer:	Diane Brandish 03 327 8991
Secretary:	Stephanie Royds 021 341 315
Committee:	Graeme Matheson 021 262 2300 Mel Peters 03 337 4144 Ian Langham ian.langham@vodafone.co.nz Jim Milne 03 366 3060
Newsletter:	Gill Peters 03 337 4144 petersmg@ihug.co.nz

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of our Club will be held at

Filedelfios Gourmet Pizza Restaurant & Bar
150 Colombo Street
Christchurch

At 2pm Sunday 6th July 2014

The usual Sunday run will begin at 10.30am and go for lunch at Filedelfios at 1pm. Please come and show your support for your club.

JULIAN'S JOTTINGS

What an amazing turnout for the monthly run, would have to be the biggest I have seen in a long time. Not sure what the catalyst was, maybe word got out that the Mini was back in action!

A big thanks to my mate Ted (aka Rod Hurst) who was a great help in putting it back together, we got the car fired up 9.30pm Saturday night, took it for a WOF on Sunday morning (yes Roydvale Testing Station is open 9 to 3) and arrived at the rendezvous by 11am. The car performed well so it is now time to concentrate on getting the Stag back together, we are currently working on a jigsaw of bits that will become a gearbox when completed.

I was checking out the cars for sale on Trademe recently and was amused to see a vehicle advertised as a stunning cruiser used regularly to travel from A to B, goes on to say rear wheel cylinder leaks, no WOF or registration plates as last owner de registered.... mmm further on mentions that the all important "ciggy lighter" works and the car is a really "grate drive" makes you wonder if they actually read what they wrote!

WEST COAST WEEKEND:

Friday 25th July – Sunday 27th July

Venue Westport Motor Hotel 207 Palmerston Street Westport Ph 03 789 7889.

The Hotel has given us a rate of \$110 per unit for 2 people.

We will travel to Westport on Friday via the Lewis Pass. On Saturday there is a possibility of visiting the Stockton Mine (if the tours are still operating) or driving to Karamea to the start of the Heaphy Track. We will have a meal on Saturday night at the Westport Motor Hotel – Meal prices between \$30 - \$40 (approx).

Sunday we will travel down the Coast Road – lunch at Kumara – and finish with Coffee & Cake at the Darfield Bakery.

Book your accommodation and please advise Mel Peters 03 337 4144 or email petersmg@ihug.co.nz of your participation.

Nelson Club members are most welcome to join us. More details next newsletter.

REPORT ON MAY 4TH OUTING:



Lunch & Quizz marking time at the Ohoka Domain.

SUNDAY MAY 4TH OUTING REPORT:

When we arrived at PMH – the initial meeting place where we were surprised to find 6 cars – we headed off quickly to the Peg and were amazed to see the group there – 28 cars altogether!

A big thank-you to Ellen McCrae who has been sending details of our runs to the Press.

Roger Hunt was our Host for the day and had a more traditional car rally for us. We had 4 pages of instructions and questions.

The Ohoka area was the destination and after many twists and turns we passed the lunch venue. "Shall we just have lunch now" "NO keep going!"

Eventually we arrived at St. Thomas's church & cemetery and had to answer several questions from the headstones.

We were the last to arrive at the Ohoka Domain for Lunch! Roger had us check our neighbours answers and we had joint winners John & Marilyn Gallagher and Kathy & Julian Barrett. It was a cold day so we were soon off to the Rangiora Railway Station Cafe for a great social afternoon.

Thank-you Roger & Zay - Gill Peters

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

A copy of the Club's Annual Accounts are added as a separate attachment to this Newsletter.

“GOLD CARD CRUISERS”

Thursday 15th May



A new members car being closely inspected.

Gold Card Cruisers 15th May 2014

Twelve Cars arrived at the Belfast Tavern car park and we also welcomed two new car enthusiasts to the friendly gathering.

We started out on the cloudy cool morning, with hopes of sunshine, driving North on the Main Highway – crossing the Ashley Bridge to turn left into the countryside. We took the back road through Sefton and Balcairn to Amberley Domain for lunch. No sun and a cooling wind after lunch made us decide to move on to coffee & cake at Pegasus Cafe we enjoyed lots of chatting in comfort. Gill Milne

Idyllic Hideaway:

On the 2014 marathon we were generously invited to have morning tea at the home of David and Lorna Wright.

And what a pleasant surprise it was tucked into the hinterland near St Bathans. We learned that David and Lorna rent out a self-contained house/cabin on their property. It was very well equipped and could provide an ideal place if you want a break away from the maelstrom of daily life.

We have provided the contact details below so if you want a place to go for R&R this could be it. The location will make a great base for exploring the area if that is your want. Or perhaps just some time out with some good books and relaxation.

Coombes Cottage B & B

83 Shepherd's Flat Road

RD1

St Bathans

Oturehua 9386

Phone (03) 4473032

Email: lornadoone@xtra.co.nz

CARS 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 if 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



SAAB 95 STATION WAGON – 1973 V4

Peking to Paris Classic Touring car.

100% reliable – View at Templeton Christchurch

Tony Childs 027 298 1445



2015 New South Wales Odyssey.

Planning: is well ahead and we have a route schedule mapped out for the 14day grand tour of New South Wales in 2015. The tour will again be plotted by Robin and Barbara Fletcher and we know from experience what a fantastic job they do for us in seeking out points of interest for us to enjoy along the way.

Dates: are still to be decided as the Bathurst race date has not been set yet. Apparently the AFL ((Aussie Rules Football)) is changing the date for their final because of the cricket world cup dates. Aussie TV will not broadcast both the AFL and Bathurst on the same day. Dates are expected to be finalised by late September this year.

Costs: are likely to be in the vicinity of \$2750 per car for the 14day tour. This includes all motel /hotel costs, route plotting and route book, commemorative rally plates, and 3 tour dinners. We are subsidising the plotting costs by utilising the surplus accrued on the South Australian Odyssey. We have calculated the exchange rate at NZ .88 cents against the Australian dollar. The Bathurst cost will be an extra as will your rental car and air travel.

Rental cars: are being arranged by Max Clarke who negotiated an incredible deal for the SA tour and he expects a similar outcome. We will keep you informed.

Restricted Entry: the tour will be limited to 20 cars at this stage as some of the centres we intend to visit have limited accommodation. We will review this after the plotting run.

Deposit: once again we will be calling for a non-refundable deposit of \$500 per entrant to cover accommodation deposits which are common in Australia for group bookings. Receipt of your deposit will confirm your entry and we will be asking for these in September/ October this year.

PROGRAMME:

Day 1

Sydney to Nowra

150 kms

Starting in the south of Sydney, within 30 minutes of the Sydney Airport, Day 1 is a short touring day designed to accommodate tour participants flying in to Sydney on the morning of the tour.

We will depart Sydney through Royal Park, the world's second oldest national park, and travel down the eastern coastline via the Illawarra region of NSW, taking in the Wollongong and Port Kembla heavy industry and port districts before stopping overnight at the twin towns of Nowra and Bomaderry, which straddle the Shoalhaven River.

Day 2

Nowra to Queanbeyan

285 kms

Easing into the daily tour routine, Day 2 starts by seeking out the naval air station HMAS Albatross before continuing to explore the NSW southern coastline as far as Batemans Bay, then heading inland to our overnight stop at Queanbeyan. Batemans Bay and the surrounding area boast some of the most spectacular and unspoiled coastline in New South Wales while Queanbeyan, located on the banks of the Queanbeyan River and on the border of the Australian Capital Territory, is home to some 40,000-odd budding Mark Webbers.

Day 3

Queanbeyan to Wagga Wagga

424 kms

Day 3 will have you lapping Capitol Hill in the heart of Canberra before looping around Canberra and heading south towards Cooma, the 1949 headquarters of the Snowy Mountains Scheme. From Cooma we will drive the Snowy Mountains Highway over the Snowy Mountains and through the thriving softwood industry region of Tumut to our overnight destination of Wagga Wagga. Midway between Sydney and Melbourne, Wagga Wagga is NSW's largest inland city and only narrowly missed out on selection to be the capital of the federated Australian colonies.

Day 4

Wagga Wagga to Griffith

188 kms

Another short run today, travelling west through south-western NSW via Narrandera, Yanco and Leeton, one of Australia's most productive farming regions with citrus, rice, grapes and wheat farms, to our overnight stop at Griffith. Today the tour organisers provide you with a rare opportunity to gaze upon another in the great Australian series of "Big" things. In the Australian tradition (read obsession) of the Big Banana, the Big Crayfish and the Big Pineapple, Ganmain presents, for your edification, the Big Haystack!

Once associated with drug distribution, particularly marijuana, and organised crime, Griffith is now associated with good wine and food, primarily as a result of its diverse population, with notable contributions by Italian-Australians.

Day 5

Griffith to Cobar

368 kms

Today we leave Australia's farming and rural environment behind us and stride into the outback. Cobar is some 712 kilometres west of Sydney (and 457 kilometres from Broken Hill, for those of you who were on the South Australian Odyssey Tour), and is a mining town, primarily of copper but also, more recently, of lead, zinc, silver and gold.

Now home to approximately 3,800 people, at its peak (1910 – 1920), Cobar had a population of

10,000 and was so prosperous that it had its own stock exchange. However, copper mining operations slowed in 1920, and by the 1930s the town's population had dropped to just a little over 1,000, only to rise again and stabilise at around 3,500 through the 1970s and early 1980s.

Approximately 70 kilometres from Cobar, at Mount Grenfell, there is a unique collection of more than 1,000 Aboriginal rock art images.

Day 6

Cobar to Bourke

160 kms

A late start today, with an easy drive to Bourke on the Darling River and an opportunity for a quiet drink at the Back of Bourke pub. Bourke's remote location, some 780 km north-west of Sydney, led to the term "*the back of Bourke*" to mean the great unknown, but you'll be surprised to discover a fascinating and exciting inland town with a rich historical tradition. Bourke serves today as a key service centre for NSW's north western regions. In this semi-arid outback landscape, sheep farming along with some small irrigated cotton crops comprise the primary industry in the area.

Day 7

Bourke to Moree

445 kms

Shaking off the red dust, Day 7 sees us heading east towards Moree, a major agricultural centre located on the border of New South Wales and Queensland, via the wool, wheat and cotton regions of Brewarrina, Walgett and Collarenebri.

Moree is recognised as Australia's Artesian Spa Capital, the hot artesian spas of the Moree Artesian Aquatic Centre being a major drawcard of the town, second only to the neighbouring pecan nut farm, the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. Yes! You can relax in a hot spa and nibble pecan nuts after today's 400+ kilometre cruise!

Moree to Tenterfield

327 kms

Today we will visit Texas! No, not that hot, dusty place full of ten gallon hats and irritating accents, but Australia's very own Texas (which, technically speaking is in Queensland and therefore excluded from a tour of NSW, but I don't think anyone will notice).

Our overnight stop will be Tenterfield, a town with tangible links to Australia's early history. Henry Parkes, Robert Mackenzie, Sir Stuart Donaldson, AB 'Banjo' Paterson and George Woolnough all had some sort of association with Tenterfield. 'George Woolnough?' you ask? George was the third saddler to occupy the Tenterfield Saddler building in High Street and grandfather of a local warbler called Peter Allen.

Day 9

Tenterfield to Grafton

456 kms

From Tenterfield we will travel through one of Australia's largest beef centres, Casino, on our way to visit the self-proclaimed 'Alternative Capital of Australia', Nimbin. Nestled in the sub-tropical foothills of the eastern edge of an extinct volcano in the rainbow region of Northern NSW, Nimbin has a high tolerance for marijuana, with the open buying, selling and consumption of locally grown 'product' on the streets and laneways.

Reaching the coast at Byron Bay, we then turn south and travel through Ballina and Evans Head to our overnight destination at Grafton. One of Australia's most beautiful provincial cities, Grafton is renowned for its Jacaranda trees, graceful old buildings, sporting and cultural facilities, and its location on the banks of the Clarence River.

Day 10

Grafton to Tamworth

432 kms

Leaving Grafton behind us, we will visit Coffs Harbour before again heading inland via Bellingen, Dorrigo and Armidale to our overnight stay at Tamworth. Once Australia's banana capital (hence the Big Banana), Coffs Harbour's economy has now been superseded by blueberries, tourism and fishing. No sign yet, though, of the Big Blueberry.

Known variously as the "First City of Lights", the "Country Music Capital of Australia" and the "National Equine Capital of Australia", Tamworth is not to be outdone in the "big" stakes, having its very own Big Golden Guitar and quite right too; the Tamworth Country Music Festival, held in late January, is the second biggest country music festival in the world.

Day 11

Tamworth to Dubbo

313 kms

Destination Dubbo via Dunedoo today. Dunedoo largely functions as a service centre to the surrounding district which focuses on the production of wheat, cattle, mixed farming, timber, fat lambs (no skinny lambs for Dunedoo!) and wool. The Dunedoo District Development Group had proposed to build "The Big Dunny" in the hope of attracting tourists. Sadly, to the world's loss, the proposal was never realised.

Dubbo is a thriving regional city servicing a geographical area one-third the size of New South Wales. It is a major road and rail freight hub to other parts of New South Wales and is considered the cross-roads of New South Wales. As with all self-respecting New South Wegian cross-roads, Dubbo has its very own open plain zoo which features over 700 animals including giraffes, rhinos, elephants and big cats, through which you walk or ride on hired bikes or carts. Curiously, repeat business is poor!

Day 12

Dubbo to Orange

424 kms

Today we will unearth Gnool Blis on the outskirts of our stopover at Orange, travelling via Parkes, Forbes, Grenfell and Cowra. Parkes is home to the Parkes Observatory, which featured prominently as a Southern Hemisphere relay and communications station for NASA during the 1969 Apollo 11 moon landing (amongst other missions). Nearby Forbes, struggling to keep up, sadly only seems to boast that their cemetery is the final resting place for notorious bushranger Ben Hall, and Kate Kelly, sister of the equally notorious Ned Kelly.

Gnool Blis of course needs no introduction. The inaugural 1960 Australian Touring Car Championship was raced at Gnool Blis, but ongoing battles with the New South Wales Police Force eventually forced the track's closure in October 1961, whereupon the race was relocated to the little known town of Bathurst.

Day 13

Bathurst (by bus)

Ladies and Gentlemen start your engines!

Presenting the 2015 Bathurst 1000 V8 Supercar motor racing spectacular for your unconstrained pleasure!

Day 14

Orange to Penrith

264 kms

We head back towards Sydney today, travelling via Bathurst and Lithgow, on the western edge of the Blue Mountains. Local attractions include the World Heritage listed Jenolan Caves, the remnants of the Zig Zag Railway and the Glow Worm Tunnel.

Climbing into the Blue Mountains, we encounter the spectacular mountain views associated with Katoomba before descending to our overnight stop and final tour dinner at Penrith. Penrith is just 50 kilometres from Sydney, an easy drive to the airport for those of you who will be departing Australia's wide brown (and stable) lands tomorrow.

