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SEPTEMBER 2014

EVENTS DIARY

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

Usual Sunday Run. Princess Margaret Hospital Car Park 3 at 10.30am then Cnr Volkman & Leeston Rd at 11.00am. We will do the 3 Gorges this month.

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER GOLD CARD CRUISERS

Meet at The Peg – Belfast Hotel at 10.30am for a drive through North Canterbury

SUNDAY OCT 5TH

We will meet at Princess Margaret Hospital Car Park 3 at 10.00am (Please note change of time)

THURSDAY OCT. 18TH

Gold Card Cruisers Details in next 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

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AN INVITATION

**FROM THE RENAULT CAR CLUB
28th September 1.30pm**

You are invited to join the Renault Car Club to visit Northbrook Museum (Spark Lane Rangiora), a large Museum full of old everyday NZ stuff, plus the largest collection of Allis Chalmers tractors in the Southern Hemisphere.

\$15 per person for Museum entry and afternoon tea.

Please RSVP James & Catherine Polden so we can advise the Museum of numbers for the afternoon tea. Contact 03 327 8232 or poldencj@gmail.com



Mainland Steam Train at Springfield

JULIAN'S JOTTINGS

As another month disappears into the distance, daylight saving is just around the corner. So much for all those winter night jobs I was going to do! It was good to see so many hardy souls turn out for the August run, obviously the lousy weather wasn't a deterrent to keep members at home.

While travelling down south recently I ended up on the end of a line of traffic headed by 2 trucks a ute towing a trailer and 3 cars, after staying in line for probably 10km I decided the front 3 cars had ample opportunity to overtake so I made my move and passed the lot. There was still a good clear road ahead where all 3 cars could have safely overtaken but for some reasons unknown they chose to stay behind the trucks at 85 to 90kmh. Am I an impatient driver? This got me thinking about the legalities of the line up. Trucks doing the legal speed limit (90kmh), therefore they would be classed as slower drivers and according to the road code should keep as close to the left side of the road as possible and pull over as soon as it is safe to let following vehicles pass. When was the last time you saw a Truckie not hugging the centre line, let alone pull over to let traffic pass? Vehicles probably following too close (the 2 second rule) and exceeding the speed limit whilst overtaking. My theory on overtaking is do so safely, don't take unnecessary risks and once you've committed go as fast as practical to reduce exposure time while on the other side of the white line.

I wonder how many more vehicles had tagged onto the line by the time I reached my destination. Looks like we've got a convoy!

Sunday 3rd August was cold and damp. Mel and I did not go to the meeting place so early as we thought there would be few people there. We even had the top up! Well, we were surprised there were 6 cars there and another 2 arrived – we moved off to Leeston and there were another 7 there.

After a brief chat we headed off on an alternative route as the mountains were looking very stormy. So we went through Southbridge and around Lake Ellesmere to Motokurara. Over Gebbies Pass and around Lyttelton Harbour. A quick trip through the tunnel down the motorway and around to Ferrymead.

As it was too cold for a picnic we lunched at Cafe Del Mar and headed home a little earlier than usual. Gill Peters



The Polden boys having fun at the cafe.

REPORT ON AUGUST 3RD OUTING:



Winter gathering at Leeston

GOLD CARD CRUISERS"14th AUGUST

Once again it was a good turn out for another trip despite the cold day and threatening black clouds. Ten cars drove from the car park and travelled through the countryside to Lincoln then Tai Tapu on to the main Akaroa highway to Little River for an excellent lunch at the cafe. After lunch we all enjoyed a browse in the Gallery with lots of interesting things to see. The predicted strong cold SW wind arrived with sleet and rain as we left for our Coffee & Cake stop at The Store, Tai Tapu. Gill Milne

WESTPORT WEEKEND JULY 2014



Jim checking if it was time to get on our way!

We met at Pukeko Junction Leithfield at 11am for an early lunch before the drive to Westport. John & Marilyn had arranged a set menu for us. The lunch was well attended and was delicious. Departure time was 12.30pm and we set off in cold but mostly dry weather. We drove directly to Reefton where we had a coffee break and a chat and arrived in Westport at about 4.30pm.

There we met the Nelson folk who had come to share the weekend with us.

Great Accommodation as we were all able to stay at the one venue. Happy Hour was followed by Bar Meals at the Hotel. Some of the group went to the local RSA and came back with a Leg of Lamb from the meat raffle!

Saturday was a little damper but we all headed North towards Karamea. There was plenty to see along the way and one of the favourites was a drive up to the Denniston Mine. The views through the mist were great and we all thought about those families who lived up there all those years ago.



At the top of the Denniston Incline

On through Granity over the Karamea Bluffs and Little Wanganui. There is a car collection at Little Wanganui and some members stayed there for their lunch of Whitebait and a look at the cars. Most had their lunch in Karamea and headed further North to the start of the Heaphy Track. Mel suggested a side trip to the Oparara Arches and only 2 cars made the trip in. The road was very rough but the Walk into the Arches was spectacular. On the way back several folk went to the Country Music Museum at Hector – a wonderful afternoon of singing and reminiscing was had by all. The evening meal was a buffet meal provided by the Hotel – it was a great feast but we had to eat quickly as the Crusaders were playing their semi-final at 7.30pm.



Sunday was a brighter day so the lid was down! The run down the Coast Road to Greymouth was spectacular as usual. The Nikau palms were looking great. Mount Cook was glistening in the distance. Lunch was at the refurbished Royal Theatre Hotel in Kumara. This is on the new West Coast Rail Trail. A great venue – well worth a visit.



Lunch at the Theatre Royal Hotel Kumara

The final run was over Arthur's Pass and we noted how little snow there was on the mountains. Coffee & Cake was at Doughboys in Darfield.

The Barretts and the Beers were not able to join us due to a bereavement and illness – we did miss them. 39 car enthusiasts enjoyed the weekend.

It was a great weekend Thank-you Mel
Gill Peters

MAINLAND STEAM ADVENTURE



On the turntable at Arthur's Pass

Bruce Keddie invited us to accompany the Mainland Steam Train on its journey to Arthur's Pass. Bruce was the Excursion Manager and Caroline was his 2IC helping with the catering. We met the train at Rolleston and what a sight to see with smoke and steam billowing out of the KA 942 Engine. The engine was built in 1940. We followed the tracks until Springfield where the train goes through the Waimak Gorge. We were waiting at Cass and we could hear the train whistle as it steamed down the hill towards us. Back into the cars and a great sight to see as it crossed the Bealey Bridge – let the passengers out for a photo shoot – backed up and then came full steam ahead for all the photographers. In Arthur's Pass the train staff were very busy turning the engine around for the return journey. In this day of technology the turntable was still operated by manpower. On the return to the city we went up the Craigeburn road to the Cass Bank to see the train using full power to climb the hill – then it was off to Springfield for coffee & cake. Bruce told us that when they leave Rolleston on the way into Christchurch they do procedures to clean out the pipes and tubes so we got there just in time to see this spectacular ending to our lovely day out.

Gill Peters



The "clean-out" at Rolleston on the way home

LAKE COLERIDGE OPEN DAY SUNDAY DECEMBER 7TH!

Step back in time and enjoy a number of yester-year themed events; Billy Tea and campfire, stories from past residents, vintage machinery, parades, powerhouse tours and demonstrationsjust to name a few.

There will be a variety of food stalls and markets to browse. A great day out for the whole family in the beautiful surrounds of Lake Coleridge.
Adults \$10 Child \$5 Family Pass \$20.

This will be our monthly event for Dec so pencil it in and maybe bring the Grandchildren.

2015 New South Wales Odyssey.

NSW/Bathurst Odyssey.

Planning is now under way and we expect to have a confirmed Bathurst date within the next 4 weeks and confirmation of The Bathurst component

Pricing. We are negotiating with a New Zealand supplier with a special add on being discussed with the Volvo racing team.

Once again we will be asking for a \$500 deposit. This will be non-refundable unless there are special circumstances such as unexpected ill health and the like. Once we have our dates set we will ask for deposits. This is likely toward the end of September. The physical plotting trip will commence in October this year and motels etc. will require a deposit for the bookings 12 months out.

Expect more news next month.

Graeme Sharp, who has been away for a while has had a computer snag and has lost some e mails expressing interest in the Odyssey. We know it is a bit of a pain but can you flick him another e-mail to info@saabclassics.net so he can confirm his mailing list as updates will be sent directly to those who wish to take part.