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### OCTOBER 2017

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Chairman: Julian Barrett 03 359 1100 Vice-Chairman: Barry Ricketts 021 775 300 Secretary: Gill Peters 021 216 0186 Treasurer: Diane Brandish 03 327 8991 Committee: Rod Hurst 03 347 9092 Colin Macdonald 03 337 3033 Jim Milne: 03 366 3060

Mel Peters: 03 261 9166 Graeme Sharp 021 395 944 Tour Director Graeme Sharp: 021 395 944

## **EVENTS DIARY** SUNDAY OCTOBER 1<sup>ST:</sup>

Rolly Inn Car Park - Rolleston for a **10.30 am departure.** For a Springtime Car Run. Bring a Picnic lunch.

From now on Sunday Runs will only have 1 point of departure – The Location chosen by the direction the route will take.

### THURSDAY OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>:

#### **Gold Card Cruisers**

Meeting place TaiTapu by the River 10-30am. Picnic Lunch

## **SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5**<sup>TH:</sup>

Usual Sunday Run

## THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>:

#### **Gold Card Cruisers**

Meeting Place West Melton Tavern Car Park 10-30 am. Picnic Lunch.

#### **MARATHON EARLY 2018**

# We welcome the following new members to our club:

Leona Murahidy & Ralph Roden Glenn & Susan Wilcock Jonathon & Mandy Oosterbroek

Please make them feel welcome.

### Julian's Jottings:

What a way to spend an extended weekend cruising around the country with a bunch of like minded car enthusiasts and call it the Alpine Classic, Good As Gold. It was great to catch up with our out of town members especially the Nelson and West Coast contingent. Thanks to G1 and G2 and their team of route plotters who made it all possible. We had sunshine and rain, more rain and then some really heavy rain and then to top it all off we found snow on the way home through the Lewis Pass, I hope everyone got through before they closed the road. By the time you read this we may have a change in whose leading the country, I will have driven to Invercargill and back, flown to Auckland (if the airlines still have fuel) and we all will have lost an hours sleep! A lot can happen in week, hope to see you on the next outing.



Ray Hunton receiving the John Harman Memorial Award for Roadside Assistance on the Alpine

# REPORT ON SEPTEMBER SUNDAY EVENT:

We had had a few days of inclement weather and the day dawned cold and wet. Mel decided after hearing road reports to cancel the run for the day.



Brave club members ready for their Sunday Run

We headed off to PMH and were surprised to see 2 cars there already – a steady stream arrived and by 10.30am there were 15 cars there.

As the decision had already been made we carried through with the alternative to just go for coffee & cake. As it was Father's Day Mel had checked with some local cafe's and they could not fit us in so it was decided to go to the Food Court at Riccarton Mall – a few of us turned up there and after setting the world to right we tried some shopping and returned home to relax in the warmth.

Bruce and Caroline decided to go to Diamond Harbour anyway and they found some wintery sunshine at the Wharf. By the look of the photo they ate their lunch in the car with the top down! Gill Peters



Diamond Harbour on a cold wet Sunday - photo Bruce Keddie

# REPORT ON GOLD CARD CRUISERS SEPT 14TH:



Lunch time in the Ashburton Domain

A good variety of cars arrived at the Rolly Inn carpark for our monthly outing and on this particular day some of us were going to be motoring on from Ashburton to Fairlie to join everyone participating in the Alpine Classic which began the following day. We decided to drive along the Main Highway, through Rakaia and turned left at Overdale for a bit of country motoring. We made our way to Fairfield Road, then Company Road to turn into the Ashburton Business Area to exit at Bremners Road. Turning on to West Sreet, we carried on to the Ashburton Domain for the lunch stop. After lunch most of us walked through to the new Museum and Art Gallery noting the blossom trees and well kept gardens along the way. On returning to our cars we said farewell to those returning to Christchurch as the others were heading south . Another enjoyable day in the sunshine. Gill Milne.



Line up of cars at Ashburton Domain – photo Jeanette Childs



# GOOD AS GOLD ALPINE CLASSIC $15^{TH}$ TO $18^{TH}$ SEPTEMBER



Day 1 Briefing at Fairlie

#### Day 1

After overnighting in Geraldine we motored down to Fairlie for the 9am meeting. We headed south deciding not to do the tiki tour as Stewart was still suffering from the effects of the flu. The pleasant morning soon dissolved and the wind got up to gale force from Burkes Pass onwards.



Monument at McKenzie Pass

We came across a campervan on its side before Tekapo and the large waves with spray coming off them on the lake was a very impressive sight. We were forced to follow 2 vehicles towing caravans at 90kph after Tekapo one was a van and was all over the road so we had to pass them before they fell over. The rest of the trip to Wanaka was uneventful. We stopped at the café in the Museum for lunch and Stewart said it was the best burger he had ever eaten and then enjoyed the displays in the museum before adjoining to our accommodation.



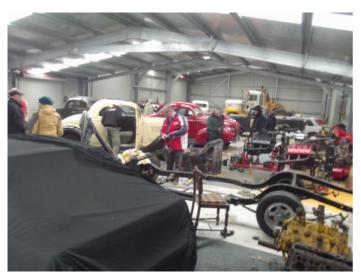
Wanaka Warbirds Museum

Day 2 We woke to a fine but very chilly morning in Wanaka. We were really impressed with all the different cars on the run. Stewart had never been though the Haast and it was more than 50 years since I had made the trip so were not sure what to expect. We were amazed at the size of Lake Hawea and then leaving Hawea to run along Lake Wanaka again. There is a lot of water down in that part of our country. We stopped at the Curly Tree just the other side of Haast and had fresh whitebait butties where we met up with the TR3 that was also taking part in the run. Fox was our next stop where we were hoping to get some lunch but we couldn't find anything that excited our taste buds so on to Franz where we brought pies and cakes from the local Four Square then onto Hokitika so far the weather had held for us and the roads had been very good. We booked into the hotel and had a very nice room as we have had some bad experiences with hotel rooms and the meal at the hotel even though it took a while to appear before us was very tasty.

#### Day 3

The rain started during the night and continued very heavy at time throughout the morning. After all Stewarts work on Milly the Morgan making sure nothing fell off and it didn't, he fell to bits and succumbed to the flu again and after telling me he didn't think he could make it to Karamea we decided to bail out and head for our Bach at Moana for the night and then home through the Arthurs Pass the next morning. Report by Beverley Ramsay.

Continuing on Day 3 Mel and I decided to stay in Hokitika for another hour but most of the tour motored around The Blue Spur area of Hokitika then through the Old Christchuch Road and turned left towards Kumara – A lovely drive around Lake Brunner and then a meeting at Stillwater to visit the lovely collection of cars owned by Joe Gillman – thanks Rod & Anne for organising this for us.



Joe Gillman's collection at Stillwater

When we left Stillwater the rain had really set in and we had a very wet drive up to Karamea – some of the cars had difficulty with water in their electrics. The Last Resort at Karamea was our stop and they provided us with an amazing evening meal and a delicious breakfast the next morning. The evening was enjoyed by all.



Dress up girls at Karamea.

Day 4 A short country drive around Karamea before heading to Westport – and a visit to Hector Pottery on the way – and then through the Buller Gorge to Murchison where we had a delicious lunch provided by the local Lions Club. The road to Christchurch looked to be very busy but most of the tour headed off into the rain. The rain turned to Snow on the Lewis Pass but it was well managed by Roads staff and every-one got through.

The organisers G1 & G2 want to commend the participants for the Standard of Driving & Behaviour on the tour - you were a Credit to our Club.

### **GOOD AS GOLD AWARDS**

Dress up's as judged by the Hotel Staff

1<sup>st</sup> Max & Merilyn Clarke as Golden Shoe Polish

2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Barrett as Goldilocks

3<sup>rd</sup> Richard Horrell as King Midas

Matching Cars with Participants - Sue McKinnon

Saab Award: Brian Grace and Crew

Spirit of Event Award: Linda Donnell

John Harman Memorial Award for Roadside

Assistance: Ray Hunton



Dress up prize winners Max & Merilyn with friends



Sue McKinnon receiving her prize for matching the Cars with the Drivers.

### 2018 Classic Marathon

Just a note to advise that the 2018 Classic Marathon will be held in late April 2018.

(date to be confirmed)

The route will be based on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rallying Tour plotted by G1 and G2 and run earlier this year.

It will be a mixed surface tour and will use some of the South Islands iconic Rally Special Stages. The event will start in Picton or Nelson and at this stage we plan to finish in Dunedin or Oamaru. The organisers want to run the tour over 8 days instead of the usual 7 and seek your feedback on this.

The final plotting run will be held after the Alpine has finished. Let a committee member know what you think about the slightly extended duration.

### 2019 WA Odyssey

We don't want G2 to get bored so we have asked him to explore the possibility of an Odyssey in Western Australia in 2019.

It has been suggested that we make it really worthwhile by providing an option of taking the train to Perth from Sydney, Melbourne or Adelaide. This could add a week to the journey resulting in a 3 week Odyssey.

G2 intends that the train journey will be optional so you can fly straight to Perth.

The current thinking is to explore the area south and east of Perth finishing with an inland run up to Kalgoolie and then looping back to Perth.

Could you let G2 know (<u>info@saabclassics.net</u>) if you are interested as we need at least 10 cars not looking for firm commitments yet, just a heads up of those interested

# MIKE MITCHELL & ELLEN OWEN



Are touring the UK and Europe for a year in the Motor Home that they pre-ordered in New Zealand.

I have asked Ellen to send me up-dates of their touring along the way. Here is the first:

Hello to all fellow club members

We arrived in UK easily enough and easiest country we have ever entered. Collected Motorhome from Poole Dorset and drove down through Cornwall. Visited Lands End and Tintagel Castle along the way. After that we went to Austin Healey Distributors and got few parts for our car. Had a couple of hiccups to sort out so spent few days in Northampton area where we managed to find Silverstone and Rockingham Race Circuits. Was going to York on the way to East Coast but too busy with Race Cup weekend, Bank Holiday and school holidays so we decided to go north to Scotland first following the Coast line. We had 2 nights in Edinburgh where we did a hop on and off city bus tour (highly reccommend). Photo of the Austin Healey Distributors Centre.

Will write again soon Ellen and Mike



New Austin Healey – Who wants one!

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renewal invoices will be posted at the end of October for those members with an expiry date of 2017.

Please check your details and advise Graeme (G2) of any changes you wish to make, including an update of your vehicles.

Payment is due by the end of December and membership fees have been held at \$25 per year. You are encouraged to pay a sub for multiple years.

Membership cards are printed once a year by the end of January so cards will be printed for members financial at the beginning of January 2018.

#### E MAIL ADDRESS

Please advise us if your email address is about to or has already changed.

# SECRETARY & NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Gill Peters has decided to retire from the committee at the AGM in May 2018.

Please offer your name or any-one you know to take on these 2 interesting rolls in the club.

Gill has a Job Description for both rolls.

Gill 03 2619166 or 021 216 0186



The Timaru Lads with their Saab Award



Linda Donnell with her Spirit of the Tour Award

# OTHER EVENTS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU:



Selwyn Motor Fest Sunday 26th November 2017.

They're hoping to attract 1,000 vehicles for display as a fund-raising family fun day event for Selwyn St John Ambulance.

Registration is only \$10 per vehicle & it's a very worthy cause.