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**FEBRUARY 2020**

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## **EVENTS DIARY**

### **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2ND**

Meeting Place Belfast Hotel The Peg Carpark. 10 30am  
Picnic lunch  
Your hosts Dennis & Karen Anderson

### **THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>** **Gold Card Cruisers**

Meeting Place Belfast Hotel The Peg Carpark 10 30am Picnic Lunch.  
Your Hosts Murray and Barbara Bugler.

### **BARRY'S BANTER:**

What a great year 2019 was. NPD opened up petrol stations all over Canterbury, including one in Rangiora, and we have been basking in the glory of cheap 100 plus high octane fuel. Of course there are those pundits out there that claim the 100 octane fuel provides no more performance or fuel consumption improvement over 95. And I say Bah Humbug to these heathens who simply have no concept of what it means for a petrolhead to run 100 octane fuel. I could run on 95. It seems to be OK but, technically speaking.....there are a couple of needs. My cars need 100 octane because they are old and are simply gagging for lead. I need it..... because I am old and stupid and my understanding of fluid chemical compositions don't go far beyond the argument of Tetley v Yorkshire teabags and how long you should leave the bag in. Kay needs it. Actually she really loves it. 2 shots 50 proof Smirnoff vodka, one shot tonic, one shot cranberry juice, one shot chilled 100 plus, a twist of lemon and some 'real man' ice. This cocktail I'll have you know, also has medicinal benefits. Tonic contains quinine which is good for treating malaria and leg cramps. (Useful for anyone driving non stop from Reefton to Collingwood via Kaikoura). But then 100 plus is such a great pick me up and at \$2.25 a litre it's way cheaper than Red Bull, Blue Smirnoff or home brew.

Last December the AA and Parks Towing rescued my Subaru WRX off SH1 where it came to halt on the northbound carriageway whilst traversing the Waimak bridge. With no response from the accelerator and the rev counter needle sitting on zero I figured the engine must have died. The timing couldn't have been worse as I had only just got onto the bridge and was cruising in the outer lane amongst the commuter traffic at a paltry 80kph. I prayed hard. Real hard, in the hope I could work my way into the slow lane without braking. The plan being to coast the car to the end of the bridge, drive over the embankment, gain sufficient momentum to cross the shingle and dump the bleedin' thing in the river. This was supposed to be my reliable Japanese car and with just over a week to go for the Ruapuna Track day you can imagine my tortured state of mind.

When he finally arrived, Mr AA was unrelenting in his effing and blinding his way around the car. Banging on the underside of the floor pan with his fists. Cursing my lack of a mass air flow meter and blaming me for not knowing anything about ECU's. When he finally gave in after an hour of tyre kicking and flattening my battery it was as though I'd broken in a wild horse. He himself was now a broken man. I decided to send the car back to Christchurch so Pat, "The Subaru Guy" and a proper mechanic, could sort it out.

With a heavy heart bordering on what looked like suicidal depression he called Parks Towing. After advising an ETA for the tow truck Mr AA quietly slipped away.....with my 10mm spanner, a philips screwdriver, a hammer and a half eaten blue cheese and onion sandwich which had been festering on my dashboard for a week.

I didn't feel too bad about the tools as the cheese wasn't blue when I made the sandwich so served him right.

With the car heading back into the CBD, I was now stranded on the side of the motorway. It was the hottest day of the year to date and I had chosen to buy Kay a surprise gift.

Some guy had come round our office that afternoon flogging home made

laxative chocolates. Apparently, all in support of global warming.

Back at the bridge I just wanted to get the chocs out of the hot sun so I rang round all my friends to at least come and rescue them but Mike was busy playing solitaire. So I tried random 03 313 phone numbers and pretended to be a long lost relative stuck on the motorway. Still no joy. My phone battery was on its last legs. I was hot, bothered and bored to tears. I was starting to panic. Normally this is closely followed by hyperventilating. So I chased after a paper bag floating alongside the motorway in the warm but humid evening breeze. It was an effort, but finally I caught it. After 5 minutes of puffing and wheezing into the bag I started to relax. I jumped down off the central median barrier, and wishing people would respect the 80kph signs, carefully worked my way back to the hard shoulder. It was then that an idea sprang to mind. There is a help line for sufferers of a disease called "I just didn't know any better" It caters mainly to owners of European cars living in New Zealand. Seems they get all suicidal. Something to do with their cherished motor laying motionless in the garage awaiting replacement parts, whilst the cars' depreciation falls through the floor. Heh Heh Heh!

Some bloke called Athol was despatched from the call centre. This geezer with a Froggy motor rocked up 10 minutes later looking for a friend. We hugged and kissed a bit, as is the way of the French. He then stepped back and reckoned he recognised me as his ex con refugee step cousin brother-in-law on his uncles' side. After a half hour catch up on old times back at the Bush Street Home For Battered Husbands he gave me a lift into Rangiora.

But then, as we drove and chatted, he mentioned how hungry he was. Apparently, he and his wife Charmaine (also French) hadn't eaten for weeks saving up for a new water pump



and a fan belt which cost \$2450 plus fitting plus GST. Feeling sorry for him I gave him the chocolates. The bugger only went and ate 'em all. Thought he would have taken a couple home to Charmaine but no, he snaffled the lot.

Got home in record time though..... considering his car only runs on 91!

Cheers all.

## REPORT ON SUNDAY DEC 1<sup>ST</sup>

We woke up, looked out the window. Yes its going to be a nice day for the Sunday Christmas Run. Rod deciding to take the Merc not the Mustang due to Noeline having an injury. Merc loaded up, off we go. Arriving at the Peg car park Belfast to find a great gathering of people and cars.

Barry welcomed everyone and had a vote on where everyone wanted to go for coffee after lunch. We jumped into our vehicles, off we all go.

It was a great run going on roads we have never been on before. We even went on a few shingle roads which resulted in Rod making a comment thank goodness I didn't bring the black mustang. I think we can all forgive Barry for the shingle roads (Think some of us are waiting for Barry to wash our cars lol)

Seriously though it was a great road trip. Thank you Barry and Kay.

We arrived with Barry directing us where to go park our vehicles. It was fantastic to see the big circle of our club members eating chatting and laughing away.

Barry went around with the Christmas Bag full of presents handing them out. Loved ours as Rod got a can of CRC and I got some yummy Christmas lollies, . Thank you to Zac who entertained us with his fantastic bag pipes. Playing some wonderful tunes, bringing back memories of when our daughter danced to them. I think everyone also enjoyed listening to Zac.

Back into the Merc we go off for a coffee at The Old School House. It was great to see so many there. The food and coffee was great also the staff were fantastic.

Then sadly it was back into the Merc to head home after such a great day out.

We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year, yes 2020.

Noeline Hurst



It augered well starting out on our Christmas event plotted by President Barry with Kay at his side. The occupants of at least 30 other cars turned left out of the Peg Carpark with the navigators (otherwise known as forced route directors) tightly clutching a sheet of instructions which looked as though it assured an interesting passage through lesser known roads of West Eyreton, Horrellville, Ashley Gorge, Loburn, Sefton and Leithfield to finish at Amberley Beach domain. This was a super spot to accommodate what had become our

now less than pristine vehicles. To Barry's chagrin those amongst us dedicated to the navigation role had negotiated the google plotted tour slavishly following the instructions of our trustworthy leader. Who knew google didn't indicate metal surfaces. Well we are a forgiving lot more particularly as there was a promise of the santa sack and glorious pipes played by our talented Zac. The memory of a delicious Christmas cake is hazy but then remembering to write a report on what was such a good event proved equally hazy. The enduring vision is being greeted by el presidente waving a cleaning clothe. The coffee and cake at the Nor'Wester wasn't hard to find and provided the quality service as befits our enthusiastic leader and driver of many and varied (clean) vehicles. Watch out for those pesky surfaces on the Marathon Barry  
Ellen McCrae (and driver)

## **REPORT ON GOLD CARD CRUISERS DEC 12<sup>TH</sup>**

A big number of happy Cruisers turned up today for the end of year lunch which is always very popular and this year we had booked at the Tai Tapu Hotel for 40 people but that increased to about 48. We did a shorter run driving out to Burnham from Rolly Inn to turn left out to Springston and on through Lincoln. We turned at Ellesmere Road to enjoy the quieter countryside in lovely sunshine and travelled the back roads to Tai Tapu Hotel for our lunch which was amazingly adequate and with very good service. Some of us had tea and coffees on the Terrace before leaving for home. A very enjoyable Christmas Function.  
Gill Milne.



## **REPORT ON SUNDAY JAN 5<sup>TH</sup>**

It was great to see 14 cars arriving at PMH when so many were still away on holiday. It was a bit cold at the start but lovely and warm by lunch time. We met Geoff & Carol at Tai Tapu before branching off at Motokurara to climb Gebbies Pass. We then traversed the Southern Summit Road and were pleased that there were not so many cyclists to negotiate. From the top of Dyers Pass we drove down to Governors Bay and then around the harbour to Lyttelton. Some had a coffee stop there. It was good to see a cruise ship in the harbour again. We then drove over the Sumner Road (a first for us after the earthquake repairs) and through Sumner – Redcliffs – Ferrymead and Bromley to our lunch stop at the South Brighton Domain. There we were joined by some folks who were not able to do the long drive but it was really good to see them. After lunch we went to Under The Red Verandah for a very enjoyable afternoon tea.

Gill Peters



Barry cooking lunch for the troops!

## REPORT ON GOLD CARD CRUISERS JAN 16<sup>TH</sup>

Our planned run to Rakaia Gorge had an unexpected extra added, with club members Rachel and Wayne Stott inviting us to visit their beautiful country garden estate. This was a real treat as the gardens and property are just stunning and so sheltered, even with the old easterly starting to blow. Thanks again Wayne and Rachel. We then carried on with our run to the Gorge, parking up at the reserve / camping ground. The camp manager very kindly offered us a corner of the camp to use which worked out very well as the picnic area was a bit tight with all the January campers. After a relaxed lunch and a wander down to the river. (some of us can still remember how to skim stones !! ) we headed off to Darfield for afternoon tea. A very relaxing day out, Thanks to all that attended.

Cheers Kit and Carol



how to skim stones!

## DECEMBER TRACK DAY RESULTS

If you recall, Dennis and Karen Anderson challenged me to a duel at Ruapuna on the understanding that the loser had to handover the deeds to their house. So on 19<sup>th</sup> December the Nissan 350Z faced off with the Subaru WRX. I was extremely surprised at how well Dennis drove the car. The F1 World Champion Racing Driver Jackie Stuart always advocated that the fastest drivers were the smoothest drivers and kept their cars balanced under braking and acceleration. Dennis is that very man. At no time was the Nissan in distress or even remotely looking like running off the track. Considering it was his first time on a race track his driving skills are commendable. In a straight line sprint along the main straight the 350Z had the edge so the only

opportunity for me to overtake him was under braking or on the twisty bits. But for track days overtaking under braking is not allowed and drivers face being black flagged if they are seen trying this manoeuvre.

Similar to Top Gear or Fifth Gear, regardless of the drag race, the proof of the pudding is lap times and I have to say that in this regard the Subaru excelled.

Dennis and I consider ourselves gentlemen and so we agreed on the day that the cars were even. However, truth be told that was total baloney. I thrashed the pants off that 350Z and I want one of Karen's houses. So it's a toss up between their 6 bedroom villa with triple garage in Rangiora, the batch in Picton overlooking the harbour or their holiday home in Monaco.

Will keep you posted and invite you round for a barby once the deal is done. You can pay your own flights to Monaco.



The Winner



The Gracious Loser

## PROPOSED TOURS FOR 2020 AND 2021.

### M&M's IOARA Marathon.



If you have not got your entry in could you please do so. Max and Merilyn need to confirm numbers at two of the venues they are using so need to know who is coming. G2 tells us that the route looks really interesting so get your entry in please.

We are proposing to run the Marathon starting Sunday 29th March for a 7 day event on roads North of Christchurch

Day 1 Hanmer to Hanmer on interesting roads

Day 2 Hamner to Golden bay

Day 3 roads around Golden bay

Day 4 Various roads taking us to Nelson

Day 5 An early start to Havelock for a day on the Pelorous Sound or Nelson tour before travelling on to Blenheim for the night

Day 6 Returning to Hanmer via the Molesworth Station

Day 7 Interesting set of roads to the east finishing back at Hanmer for the final dinner

organisers Max & Marilyn Clarke phone 021548389 (Max)  
or email : [atmore.towers@xtra.co.nz](mailto:atmore.towers@xtra.co.nz)

Subject to committee approval I am looking at the following tours over the next two years

**Spring 2020**, a 3-day weekend casual weekend run to South Canterbury/ North Otago.  
Organiser not yet decided.

**Late Summer, early Autumn 2021**, A 14-day Tasmanian Odyssey organised by Robin Fletcher, member from Melbourne. It was hoped to do the Tasmanian Odyssey in late 2020 but this will not be possible, hence the change to early 2021 when the weather is at its best.

**August 2021**, reverting to our traditional time of year 4-day Alpine run. Organiser not yet decided

We will keep you fully informed of progress.  
G2 Tour Director

## FOR SALE

The Club now has **new car badges**. These are of the soft peel and stick type, designed to fit on curves as in body panels or windscreens. They are 100mm long by 50mm high.



**Badges as above only \$9.00 each.**  
**Club Caps** only \$15 each  
sew on **Badge** \$8 each  
see Kit & Carol Peverill or Rod Hurst



## OTHER EVENTS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU:

### BellaRat's Gas & Gander

Last Friday of each month about 7pm . Meet at the new NPD gas station on Jones Rd, Rolleston for a catch up and coffee in your rat rods, hotrods customs or what ever you show up in.. good food and coffees. NPD look forward to your visit 740 Jones Road

## Twin Rivers Motoring Extravaganza

Sunday March 8, 2020 From 10am.

A & P Showgrounds Curletts Rd.

Major Sponsor:- Paul Kelly Motor Coy Ltd.  
Organised by the Rotary Club of Avonhead.

### Event history.

Since taking over from **The Classic Motoring Society** in 2004, the Avonhead Rotary Club have organised this event, with all proceeds going to charity.

Over the last 16 years the Rotary Club has raised over \$90,000, in 2019 the charity was The Cholmondeley Children's Centre but this year we are supporting the Charity Hospital. As the event is significant in the Canterbury motoring year, we have made the decision to fix the date for this event to the second Sunday in March every year, which will help clubs like yourselves and other supporters, plan your event diaries.

A special designated area at the Showgrounds can be set aside for your use only. Entry fee is \$15.00 for entrants and for spectators cars. Eftpos is available.

Electric cars will be available for view in the Arena.

Not only cars, but the Vintage Machinery Club will be there showing off their vintage tractors, as well as an engine building competition by Christchurch workshops.

Food and drinks available.

All makes, models, types, shapes, styles and ages are welcome, if it has wheels – bring it. Prises for the best British, American, Japanese, Australian & European cars.

For more details or keep in touch, follow the Twin Rivers Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/TwinRiversCarParade](https://www.facebook.com/TwinRiversCarParade)

If you have any queries, please contact John Soundy of the Rotary Club of Avonhead: by text on 0274 371188 or by email, [johnsoundy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:johnsoundy@xtra.co.nz) or Graeme McVicar on 0275 341330.

